



Gc  
978.101  
L11ca  
1606078

M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL  
GENEALOGY COLLECTION



ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01103 1751









# HISTORY

—OF—

## LABETTE COUNTY, KANSAS,

—AND—

## REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

---

EDITED AND COMPILED BY

HON. NELSON CASE.

---

"History is Philosophy Teaching by Examples."

1865-1900.

---

PUBLISHED BY

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY,

GEORGE RICHMOND, PRES.; S. HARMER NEFF, SEC'Y; C. R. ARNOLD, TREAS.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

1901.





1606078

-NOTE-

All the biographical sketches published in this volume were submitted to their respective subjects, or to the subscribers, from whom the facts were primarily obtained, for their approval or correction before going to press; and a reasonable time was allowed in each case for the return of the type-written copies. Most of them were returned to us within the time allotted, or before the work was printed, after being corrected or revised; and these may therefore be regarded as reasonably accurate.

A few, however, were not returned to us; and, as we have no means of knowing whether they contain errors or not, we cannot vouch for their accuracy. In justice to our readers, and to render this work more valuable for reference purposes, we have indicated these uncorrected sketches by a small asterisk (\*), placed immediately after the name of the subject. They will all be found on the last pages of the book.

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING CO.


**SURNAME FILE**

10010-4-18-71- Bordenland, Baykz.



# Preface

---

HE aim of the publishers of this volume has been to secure for the historic portion thereof full and accurate information respecting all subjects therein treated, and to present the data thus gathered in a clear and impartial manner. If, as is their hope, they have succeeded in this endeavor, the credit is mainly due to the diligent and exhaustive research of that eminent pioneer resident of Labette county, Hon. Nelson Case, of Oswego, whose high character and profound erudition are recognized throughout the State of Kansas. His patient and conscientious labor in the compilation and the presentation of facts is shown in the historical portion of the volume. This record gives a comprehensive account of the organization of the county, and of the leading events in the stages of its development from 1865 to the present time, as set forth in the table of contents. Certain subjects which Judge Case hoped to introduce have been omitted for lack of requisite data, but all topics and occurrences are included which are essential to the usefulness of the history. Although the purpose of the author was to limit the narrative to the close of 1900, he has deemed it proper to touch on some matters overlapping that period. For any possible errors that may occur in the work, the indulgence of our readers is asked.

The reviews of resolute and strenuous lives, which make up the biographical department of the volume, and whose authorship is entirely independent of that of the history, are admirably adapted to foster local ties, to inculcate patriotism and to emphasize the rewards of industry, dominated by intelligent purpose. They constitute a most appropriate medium of perpetuating personal annals and will be of incalculable value to the descendants of those therein commemorated. They bring into bold relief careers of enterprise and thrift and make manifest valid claims to honorable distinction. If "Biography is the only true History," it is obviously the duty of men of the present time to preserve in this enduring form the story of their lives in order that their posterity may dwell on the successful struggles thus recorded, and profit by their example. These sketches, replete with stirring incidents and intense experiences, will naturally prove to most of the readers of this book its most attractive feature.



In the aggregate of personal memoirs, thus collated, will be found a vivid epitome of the growth of Labette county, which will fitly supplement the historic statement; for the development of the county is identified with that of the men and women to whom it is attributable. The publishers have endeavored in the preparation of the work to pass over no feature of it slightly, but give heed to the minutest details, and thus to invest it with a substantial accuracy which no other treatment would afford. The result has amply justified the care thus exercised, for in our belief no more reliable production, under the circumstances, could be laid before its readers.

We have given special prominence to the portraits of representative citizens, which appear throughout this volume, and believe they will prove a most interesting feature of the work. We have sought to illustrate the different spheres of industrial and professional achievement as conspicuously as possible. To those who have kindly interested themselves in the successful preparation of this work, and who have voluntarily contributed most useful information and data, we herewith tender our grateful acknowledgment.

THE PUBLISHERS.

CHICAGO, ILL., August, 1901.

# Contents

EARLY HISTORY.....	11
Origin of our Laws and the Sources of Titles to our Homes—Discoveries—Charters—Treaties—Territorial Government—The Osages—Survey of Reservation—Schools—Chiefs—Towns—Battle—The Two Bands—Character—Burying Grounds—Treaties with the Osages—John Mathews—Early Expeditions—Early Settlements—Surveys—Labette—Boundary.	
PERMANENT SETTLEMENT, ORGANIZATION, AND GROWTH.....	27
Organization of the County—Land Titles—Hardships—First Administration—Marriages—County-Seat and County-Seat Contests—County Buildings—Furnishing County Offices—Self-Organized Courts—District Court—Home for the Poor—List of Superintendents of Poor-Farm—Bridges—U. S. Census—Assessment for 1867—Tax Sales—County Expenses—Colored People—Athletics—Official Delinquencies—Reception of President Hayes.	
INDUSTRIAL COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS.....	48
First Wheat Crops—Castor Beans—Tame Grass—Cotton Industry—Grasshoppers—Fish and Game—Bounty—Dehorning Stock—Texas Fever—Hedge and Weed Law—Natural Gas—Tables showing Acreage, Product and Value of Field Crops—Farmers' Organizations (Grange, Alliance, &c.)—Fair Associations—Agricultural and Horticultural Societies—Labette County Historical Society—Other Local Organizations—G. A. R.	
CRIMINAL MATTERS.....	68
Assassination, &c., &c.—The Bender Slaughter-Pen—Vigilance Committee—Citizens' Protective Association.	
MISHAPS.....	78
Drownings—Conflagrations—Boiler Explosions—Deaths by Fire, &c., &c.	
METEOROLOGICAL.....	81
The Weather, embracing the period from 1865 to 1900.	
STORMS.....	92
MUNICIPAL TOWNSHIPS.....	94
A condensed History of all the Townships in the County from the Date of the Organization of each Township up to the Present Time.	
TOWNS AND CITIES.....	118
Proposed Towns (containing some account of the various towns which at one time had an actual or "paper" existence, but are now dead)—The Cities, Towns and Stations in Labette County as existing at present.	
EDUCATIONAL.....	166
Public Schools—The First Schools in the County—Detailed History of each School District—Grading Country Schools—Teachers' Institutes—County Teachers' Association—Private Schools—County High School—Hobson Normal Institute—Oswego College—Osage College for Young Ladies—Literary Circles.	

RAILROADS.....	203
Roads Attempted to be secured—Roads Constructed—Railroad Strikes.	
POLITICAL.....	212
Brief Account of all the Conventions of the Various Political Parties, beginning with those of 1866—Candidates for Judicial Honors—Elections—Commissioner Districts—Legislative Apportionment—List of Officers—List and Terms of Chairmen of Board of County Commissioners—List of Official Papers.	
THE STRUGGLE FOR TEMPERANCE.....	245
The First Licensed Saloon—The Crusade Spirit—Reform Club—Breweries—Murphy Meetings—Dispensing with Petition—Temperance Organizations—The Prohibition Canvass—First Anniversary of Prohibition—Organizations for Enforcing the Law—Druggists' Reports—"Original Package" Houses.	
POSTOFFICES AND POSTMASTERS. ....	260
A Complete List of the Postoffices and Postmasters of Labette County, from 1865 to the Present.	
THE PRESS.....	264
Brief account of each Newspaper and Periodical which has been Published in the County.	
BENCH AND BAR.....	281
RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.....	297
History of every Religious Organization (embracing Churches, Sabbath Schools, Bible Societies, Y. M. C. A., &c., &c.) which has existed in the County.	
THE SETTLERS' CONTEST FOR THEIR HOMES.....	359
Preliminary Steps in the Contest—Settlers' Meetings—Basis for their Claims—Action of Congress and of the Land Department—Attitude of the Local Press—Settlers' Protective Association—Its Constitution—Legal Measures—Further Legislation—Final Victory.	







HON. NELSON CASE.

# History of Labette County

---

## EARLY HISTORY

---

The English claim to this continent, like that of all the European governments which made claim thereto, was based on discovery. In 1496 King Henry VII granted a commission to John Cabot to discover countries then unknown to Christian people, and to take possession of them in the name of the King of England. Under this commission Cabot and his son Sebastian the following year discovered the continent of North America, and setting up the English standard, took possession of the same in the name of the King of England some fourteen months prior to the discovery of the main land of America by Columbus. In 1498, John Cabot having in the meantime died, Sebastian made another voyage and explored the coast as far south as Virginia. From these discoveries England dates her claim to this continent.

In 1606 James I granted a charter to Sir Thomas Gates and others, authorizing them to colonize the New World. Under this charter two companies were formed. One, called the London Company, was to send out the "First Colony of Virginia," who were to settle between the 34th and 38th degrees of north lati-

tude, and whose possessions were to extend inland without bound; under this grant the first permanent English settlement in America was made, at Jamestown, in 1607. The other company under this charter, called the Western Company, was to send out the "Second Colony of Virginia," who were to settle between the 41st and 45th degrees of north latitude. This county is embraced within the first of these grants.

On May 23, 1609, the London Company was granted a new charter by King James, under letters patent running to Robert, Earl of Salisbury, and others, constituting them a body corporate under the style of "The Treasurer and Company of Adventurers and Planters of the City of London for the First Colony of Virginia." By this patent the company was granted "All the lands, countries and territories situate, lying and being in that part of North America called Virginia, from the point of land called Cape or Point Comfort all along the seacoast to the northward two hundred miles; and from said Cape or Point Comfort all along the seacoast to the southward two hundred miles, and all that space and

circuit of land lying from the seacoast of the precinct aforesaid up into the land throughout from the sea, west and northwest; and also all the islands lying within one hundred miles along the coast of both seas of the precinct aforesaid, with all the soil, grounds, rights, privileges and appurtenances to these territories belonging, and in the letters patent particularly enumerated."

In March, 1612, a third charter was granted this London company, but without changing the boundaries of its grant from what they were under its prior charter.

By the terms of the first charter of which I have spoken, the superior council of the company were appointed by the king; and under the king's advice and direction this company was to ordain and remove the resident council. The king retained the supreme legislative authority in himself. Emigrants were promised that they and their children should continue Englishmen. The state religion of England was established here, and capital punishment was prescribed for several offenses. Lands were to descend according to the laws of England.

By the second charter the powers reserved to the king in the first were given to the company. The council were to be elected by the shareholders, and they might endow emigrants with the rights of Englishmen. Colonists were given a few acres of ground, and the right of private property was firmly established. By the third charter, power was transferred from the council to the company, through which the colonists might be granted all the rights belonging to the people of England. Under this charter the first American representative legislature assembled at Jamestown on July 30, 1619. In 1624, in an action of *quo warranto*, this corporation was dissolved

by judgment of the court of King's Bench, and its rights reverted to the crown of England.

By the treaty of Paris, signed on February 10, 1763, entered into between Great Britain, Spain and France, the latter released to the former all claim to the territory east of the Mississippi except New Orleans, while all the territory west of 'that river was ceded to France. From this time we ceased to be a dependency of the English and became attached to the French crown.

In 1762, by the secret treaty of Fontainebleau, France ceded upper Louisiana, embracing the territory we now occupy, to Spain, though the latter did not take possession of the same till 1770.

On October 1, 1800, by the treaty of St. Ildefonso, Spain retroceded Louisiana to France. Those who lived here from 1770 to 1800 were therefore under Spanish rule, and all changes of title during that time must have been by Spanish laws.

On April 30, 1803, the treaty of Paris was concluded, by the provisions of which the French Republic sold the entire province of Louisiana to the United States, since which time we have been a part of her territory and subject to her laws.

#### LAWS PRIOR TO THE ORGANIZATION OF KANSAS TERRITORY.

On October 31, 1803, the law was approved authorizing the President to take possession of the French (Louisiana) purchase, and to provide for its government until a government should be provided by Congress.

On March 26, 1804, the President approved the act dividing the French purchase into two districts, viz.: the Territory of Orleans, to em-

brace all the purchase lying south of the 33d degree of latitude, for which a territorial government was provided; and all the purchase lying north of that line was designated the District of Louisiana, the government of which was placed under the governor and judges of the Indiana Territory, and these officers were authorized to exercise legislative as well as executive and judicial functions over the district.

In pursuance of the authority conferred by this act of Congress, the governor and judges of the Indiana Territory ordained and promulgated a body of laws, most of which went into operation October 1, 1804. Various crimes were defined and punishments therefor provided; courts were established; slavery was recognized throughout the territory, and minute regulations were prescribed for the conduct and government of negroes; provision was made for recording legal instruments, for licensing attorneys, for practice in court, and for marriage.

By act of Congress of March 3, 1805, the *District* of Louisiana was changed to the *Territory* of Louisiana, and a territorial government provided, consisting of a governor and three judges, who were also to exercise legislative functions.

By act of Congress approved June 4, 1812, and which went into operation on the first Monday of December, 1812, the name of the Territory was changed from Louisiana to Missouri, and a legislative assembly was added to the executive and judicial departments of government.

By a law of the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri, approved January 19, 1816, the common law of England, so far as not inconsistent with the laws of the United States, was declared to be in force, but the

doctrine of survivorship in case of joint tenancy, it was expressly declared, should never be in force.

On March 6, 1820, the famous compromise measure of Henry Clay became a law by the approval of the President, whereby that portion of the Territory of Missouri embraced within the bounds of the present State of Missouri was authorized to form a constitution and be admitted into the Union as a State, and from all the remainder of said Territory, lying north of 36 degrees 30 minutes, slavery and involuntary servitude were forever excluded. In pursuance of this authority a constitution was adopted and Missouri was fully admitted into the Union by proclamation of the President, dated August 10, 1821.

In 1850 the slavery agitation was reopened in Congress, and several acts passed as another compromise, among them the establishment of territorial government for New Mexico and Utah, with provisions in each for their admission "into the Union with or without slavery, as their constitutions may prescribe at the time of their admission;" and an act making more stringent provisions for the apprehension and return of fugitive slaves.

By "An act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," approved June 30, 1834, Congress declared all the territory west of Missouri and Arkansas "Indian Country," and attached, among others, the Osage country to the Territory of Arkansas, and declared the laws of the United States providing for the punishment of crimes committed in territory under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States to be in force in such Indian Country. This arrangement continued to the formation of the territorial government.

## TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT.

By "An act to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas," approved May 30, 1854, Congress organized the territory now forming the State of Kansas into a Territory, and provided for it a government consisting of executive, legislative and judicial departments. By Sec. 27, writs of error were to be allowed from the Supreme Court of the Territory to the Supreme Court of the United States "in all cases involving title to slaves," without regard to the amount in controversy; and provision was made for enforcing the Fugitive Slave act of 1850.

In July, 1855, the first territorial legislature met, and enacted what were popularly known as the "Bogus Laws." They were almost a transcript of the laws of Missouri. Some recognition seems to have been given them in one or two of the succeeding sessions of the legislature, by way of amendment, and yet when the people had obtained control of matters and had taken them from the hands of the "border ruffians," no one ever paid any attention to the provisions of these statutes, when they conflicted with their convictions of right; and, on February 11, 1859, the whole body of the enactments of 1855 were repealed by a single sentence. The most objectionable feature of these old laws was the one relating to slavery.

By chapter 151 of this enactment, slavery was recognized as an existing institution, and severe penalties were enforced for any interference therewith. By this law it was made a felony to deny the right of property in slaves, or to print or circulate any book, pamphlet or paper denying such right. But this chapter was repealed on February 9, 1858.

The only other provision particularly

affecting the people of this county was the creation of the county of Dorn, embracing what is now Neosho and Labette counties.

On January 29, 1861, Kansas was admitted into the Union under the Wyandotte Constitution. Under this constitution and the laws made by authority thereof most of us have lived since our residence in this county.

## THE OSAGES.

Whether or not the Osages were the autochthones of this county, I leave for the antiquarians to determine, but for the purpose of this work I shall not go back of their settlement here to inquire who, if anyone, preceded them to this country. The Government's intercourse with this tribe seems to have commenced in 1808, when on November 10, 1808, a treaty was concluded at Fort Clark, on the Missouri River, by the terms of which the United States received the tribe into its fellowship and under its protection, and the Osages ceded to the United States all their territory lying east of a line running south from Fort Clark to the Arkansas River. The next important treaty with this tribe was made June 2, 1825, at St. Louis. By the provisions of this treaty the Osages relinquished to the Government all their land lying south of the Kansas River and north and west of the Red River, east of a line drawn south from the sources of the Kansas through Rock Saline, excepting a strip 50 miles wide extending from a line 25 miles west of the Missouri State line to the west line of the ceded territory. The southern part of Allen, together with Neosho and Labette counties, formed the territory on the east line of this reservation, which extended west nearly across the State.

Soon after the conclusion of this treaty, the



Osages moved to Kansas, and began settling along the Neosho and Verdigris rivers; these settlements commenced as early as 1827. Prior to this their home had been farther east, and this had formed their hunting-ground. Here they were when our people commenced settling this county, in 1865.

#### SURVEY OF RESERVATION.

The northeast corner of this reservation was established by Major Angus Langham, in 1827, and the east and south lines as far west as the Arkansas River were surveyed and established by him that year. It was not until 1836 that the north line was definitely surveyed and established by John C. McCoy.

#### SCHOOLS.

About 1826 the Presbyterians established a school on the left bank of the Marais des Cygnes, near the present site of Pappinsville, Bates county, Missouri, called Harmony Mission. A year later they established another school, at Saline, in the Cherokee Nation. These schools did not prosper, and after they were broken up the Presbyterians erected a large house on the east bank of Four-Mile Creek, in Neosho county, just above its junction with the Neosho. Father John Schoemaker started the Catholic Mission in the spring of 1847.

#### CHIEFS.

Parties who have long been acquainted with the Osages tell me that to entitle a party to the position of civil chief, he had to have a mother of a chief bearing family. The Beaver family, if not the only, was the principal one

from whom the women came whose children were entitled to obtain the position of civil chief. There was not only a principal civil chief, but also the chiefs who led the bands in war; to this latter class Chetopa belonged. It is said he could not become a civil chief, not having a mother who produced a candidate for that position; but he was the principal war chief, and when on the war-path outranked the civil chief. He was a great friend of Dr. Lisle. It was for him that the town of Chetopa was named. White Hair, who was the principal chief on the arrival of the first white settlers, was a man of great force and authority. He was born in Neosho county, about 1834, and died of consumption, at his camp on the Verdigris, December 24, 1869.

#### TOWNS.

The position of the chief's town, as that of the towns of the others, varied from time to time. Their improvements were not such as to make it impossible to change location when circumstances seemed to demand it. On a map of the Osage country, made in 1836 by John C. McCoy, who surveyed and ran the north line of the reservation, "White Hair Town" was located on the west side of the Neosho River, about one-fourth of the way from the north to the south boundary of the reservation. A copy of this map, which was furnished to the St. Louis office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, is now in our State Historical Society. Subsequently we find White Hair Town at a point farther down the river, but probably all the time it was somewhere in Neosho county. At the foot of the bluff north and east of Oswego, as well as at other points within a few miles of Oswego, are still to be found unmistakable evidences of the sites

of their towns, which must have been inhabited for very many years. Dr. W. S. Newlon has made something of a study of the subject of their villages, implements, etc.

#### BATTLE.

About 1837 there was a bloody encounter between a band of Cherokees under the command of Captain Rogers, who lived at the salt works on Grand River, and who was an uncle of Lewis Rogers, of Chetopa, and the Little Town band of Osages, in a grove a few miles south of Oswego. About 100 of the Osages, embracing nearly all of the band, were killed. White Hair, who was then a small boy, and who afterward became the principal chief, was away from the band at the time, and was thus spared. The Osages were all drunk, and were butchered—men, women and children alike. This butchery was in revenge for an expedition that they had made down in the Cherokee country a short time before. Dr. Lisle has told me he got this information direct from White Hair himself, and also the same from a man by the name of Etter, who was with Captain Rogers on the Cherokee side.

It is said that in 1862 or 1863 a band of Missouri rebels on their way to the western plains or mountains, were surprised by a band of Osages in what is now Osage township in this county; the rebels were surrounded by the Indians, and all but two were killed. In regard to this matter I have no information except that which I get from the old settlers, who in turn claim to have gotten it from the Indians, or someone with them.

#### THE TWO BANDS.

Rev. Isaac McCoy in his history of Baptist Indian Missions, on page 358, says that

the Osages lived on the Missouri in two settlements, and were known among Indians and those familiar with Indian affairs, as upper settlement or people, and lower settlement or people; and remarks that the whites, who were ignorant of their language, fancied that one was called "tall people" and the other "short people." He says that this was the origin of the designation Great and Little Osages. Those designated the "upper people," which the whites took to mean *tall people*, being the Great Osages, and those designated "lower people," supposed by the whites to mean *short people*, the Little Osages. He says: "In most of our treaties with the Osages they have been represented as composed of two distinct bands, called Great and Little Osages; no such distinction in reality exists, or ever did exist. The supposition originated in the ignorance and awkwardness of traders among them." This account was given in 1828, and seems to furnish a plausible theory of the origin of this designation; but we must remember that these terms were used in our first treaty with them, in 1808.

#### CHARACTER.

I have not sufficient acquaintance with Indian matters to be able to attempt anything like a description of the Osages, or to assign to them the character to which they are probably entitled, but the facts of their history, as we gather them from the reports of their doings, lead me to suppose that they were not of that savage and barbarous disposition which some have attributed to them, and which characterizes so many of the Indian tribes. I should rather say of them that they were expert cattle and horse thieves, and that among them a person's life was less in danger than his jewelry and clothing.

## BURYING-GROUNDS.

The mode of burial among the Osages was to place the corpse in a sitting posture on the ground, at most, only in a slight excavation, and pile around it a heap of stones for its protection. When the early settlers came here many such graves were seen in which the skeleton was remaining intact, and in some instances the flesh scarcely yet having entirely disappeared. There were a number of these burial-places located in this county—one in Neosho township, on the county line, one or more where Oswego now is, and others farther west.

## TREATIES.

The treaty with this tribe in which our people are especially interested was concluded at Canville trading-post, nearly on the site, but a short distance east of the present station of Shaw, between Erie and Chanute, on the 29th of September, 1865. M. W. Reynolds was clerk of the commission which negotiated this treaty. When it reached the Senate its ratification with certain amendments was made on June 26, 1866. These amendments were accepted by the Indians on September 21, 1866, and the treaty as thus amended was proclaimed by the President and became operative January 21, 1867.

By the first article of this treaty a strip 30 miles in width on the east end of their lands was sold to the United States. This was afterwards known as the Osage Ceded Lands, and is principally embraced in the counties of Neosho and Labette.

By the second article of the treaty the Osages ceded to the United States in trust a strip 20 miles in width off the north side of the remainder of their lands. This was known

as the Osage Trust Lands. The remaining portion of their lands was thereafter known as the Osage Diminished Reservation.

On May 27, 1868, another treaty was concluded with the Osages, on Drum Creek, which was commonly known as the Sturgis treaty, because of the controlling spirit of William Sturgis in securing its negotiation. By the terms of this treaty the entire tract included in said Diminished Reservation, estimated to contain 8,000,000 acres, was sold to the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston R. R. Co., but supposed to be largely for the benefit of Mr. Sturgis, who had secured the treaty, at the agreed price of \$1,600,000, or about 20 cents an acre.

By the time this treaty reached the Senate, the settlers were aroused, and at once a determined fight was made against its ratification. Great credit is due to Congressman Clark for the active measures by him inaugurated in the House to bring to light the objectionable features of the treaty. Its ratification was never secured.

By an act approved July 15, 1870, the President was directed to remove the Osage Indians from the State of Kansas to the Indian Territory as soon as they would agree thereto.

About the middle of September following, a council with the Indians was held on Drum Creek, and arrangements agreed on for their final removal from the State. This removal took place within the following few months, since which time their home has been in the Territory just south of the State line.

## JOHN MATHEWS.

John Mathews was a native, some say of Virginia and others of Kentucky, and at a very early day—usually given at about 1840,

but the exact date is not known—he came among the Osages as a trader, and became their blacksmith. His name does not appear among those on the Government roll of blacksmiths for the Osages in 1843, and if he had come among them at that time he had probably not secured Government employment. His name appears among the Government blacksmiths for the Senecas and Shawnees in 1839, so it seems certain that between that time and 1843 he came among the Osages. He settled near the edge of the bluff in the east part of Oswego, where he maintained a trading-post and erected several buildings. These buildings stood partly on what is now block 61, and extended north across Fourth avenue and on to block 60. They were used by him as a residence, a place where travelers were entertained, for his store and warehouse, and for the care of his stock. The remains of the ruins of some of these buildings may still be seen in the street about 125 feet east of the northeast corner of the Park, on block 52. He got water from the spring at the intersection of Fourth avenue and Union street. Mathews was a very popular man among the Indians. He had for his wife a full-blooded Osage, and raised a large family of children. He had an extensive trade, and is said to have accumulated a large property, all of which was destroyed or captured at the time of his death. He had some fine stock, and kept a race-course just south of his residence. At the outbreak of the war he joined his interests with the Southern Confederacy, became a colonel in the Rebel army, and generally has the reputation of being engaged in the sacking of Humboldt, in August, 1861; but Dr. Lisle, who knew him well, says he was not with the force at the time of the occurrence of that event, and did not arrive there until after the raid of the

place, and was in no wise responsible for it. After this the United States forces became very much exasperated at the conduct of the Rebels in the sacking of Humboldt, and determined to take speedy revenge. Mathews, being credited with having conducted the raid, was sought after, and those in pursuit determined upon his capture or death, and a party was organized to proceed south and take him.

Col. W. A. Johnson, of Garnett, and Dr. George Lisle, of Chetopa, have furnished me the information on which the following account is based.

One detachment came down the river from Humboldt, and another from Fort Lincoln, in Bourbon county, the two detachments expecting to meet near the mouth of Lightning Creek. This force was composed of some enlisted men and many civilians who had not been mustered into the service, numbering perhaps two or three hundred, only a part of whom arrived at the place where Mathews was found. They were all under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Blunt. Among the civilians who were in the company were Preston B. Plumb, of Emporia, and W. A. Johnson, of Garnett. They marched down on the east side of the Neosho River, crossed the river at Rocky Ford, and came up and surrounded the house owned by Wm. Blythe on the west side of the Neosho, and just above the State line, being in what is now Cherokee county. The house was then occupied by Lewis Rogers. It was now just daylight; Mathews had come from his home the day before, stopping at Dr. Lisle's in the evening to get something to eat, and then, on his way south, arrived at the home of Rogers after dark. The scouts had seen him go there, and the troops were reasonably certain that they had found the man for whom they were hunting. A demand was

made that Mathews be delivered to them. The house was surrounded by corn and high weeds; Mathews came out of the back door, partially dressed, with a double-barreled shotgun in his hand; he was at once riddled with bullets; no one knew whose shot did the work. This was in the latter part of September, 1861; corn was then just getting ripe enough for use. That day a part of the troops returned to Che-topa settlement and arrested all the men whom they found living there at the time, and took them to Mathews' place, or Little Town, where that evening they were tried by court-martial. Among those arrested were James Bowles, George Ewers, Mr. White, Joel Combs, and Dr. George Lisle. It was ascertained that Combs was a government detective, and had been working up evidence to implicate some of the residents as sympathizers with the Rebel cause. Colonel Blunt presided at the trial, and Captain Brooks acted as clerk. After a full investigation, and all the testimony had been introduced, nothing was found implicating any of the parties arrested, and they were all discharged. They were allowed to remain under Government protection over night, and the next day they started for their homes under an escort to protect them outside of the limits, where they were likely to be molested by any of the troops. During the night one of the soldiers exchanged an old broken-down horse for Dr. Lisle's animal, which was in much better condition, and it took a peremptory order from Colonel Blunt to induce him to deliver to the Doctor his horse when he was ready to start home. Before this party was out of sight the Mathews premises were set on fire and all destroyed.

Mathews had his burying-ground on the high land at the intersection of Union street and First avenue. A number of graves are

still visible. Until within a few years there stood at the head of one of these graves a common sandstone with the following inscription cut thereon: "A. E. Mathes. Departed this life April 10, A. D. 1857. Aged 11 years, 7 months, 27 days." It will be noticed that in the name, as cut on this stone, there is no *w*. Several years ago the stone was broken down, and is now in the possession of the County Historical Society. Some of the writing is partially effaced.

The early white settlers continued to use this burying-ground for a year or two after the settlement commenced in 1865.

The following letter from the son of John Mathews is of interest, not only because of the information it contains, but also because coming from one of the first children born to a white parent on the present site of Oswego. I wrote to the uncle referred to in the letter, but could get no reply from him:

"PAWHUSKA, I. T., Sept. 30, 1891.

"*Nelson Case, Esq., Oswego, Kansas—*  
DEAR SIR: I will try and give you all the information I can in regard to the old place. It was called Little Town as far back as I can recollect. I was born in the year 1848. The stream west of town was named by the Osages; they called it En-gru-scah-op-pa, which means some kind of animal; then the French called it La Bette, which means the same thing. I do not know how large the farm was, but from the best information I can gather there were 100 acres on the place where the town now stands, and if my memory serves me right, there were 30 acres in the bottom.

"I do not know what white men settled near our place, but I can find out from my sister, who lives 30 miles west from here. From the best information I can find out, the place was settled by a man by the name of Augustos

Chautau, in the year 1843, who sold it to my father, who started a trading-post there in the year 1849.

"I have an uncle by the name of Allen Matthews, who lives in Neosho, Jasper county, Missouri, who can give you more information than I can if you will write to him.

"Hoping this will help you in your work, I remain,  
Yours,

"W. S. MATTHEWS."

### EARLY EXPEDITIONS.

The early surveyors and Indian agents made a number of trips through this country, several of which we have official accounts of. In Mr. McCoy's history of Baptist Indian Missions, at page 355, he says: "On the 17th [of November, 1828] we reached the Osage Agency, gave notice of our arrival to the Osages, and desired them to meet us in council. On the 20th we pitched our tents near the village of the chief called White Hair." And further along he says that on November 26, 1828, their exploring party camped on the Arkansas at the mouth of the Verdigris River. Their journey in all probability took them through or near the present site of Oswego and Chetopa. After making some surveys in the Territory, the party returned, and on December 14th were again at White Hair's village. He again speaks of crossing the Neosho into the principal village of the Osages on June 30, on his way to Fort Gibson to establish certain boundaries between Indian tribes.

### EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

The date of settlement of the first white person in this county is unknown; whether it was John Mathews or some of the parties in

the neighborhood of Chetopa, I cannot say. The letters which I present herewith contain the most authentic information I have been able to gather on the subject, and I give them here as I have received them.

"PACTOLUS, BENTON CO., ARK., Dec. 1, 1891.

"*Hon. Nelson Case, President Labette Co. Historical Society*—DEAR SIR: In response to your request for some facts relative to early history, I will contribute the following.

"I came to what is now Labette county on January 17, 1847, and established a trading-post at the point where Chetopa now stands. I came here from Spring Place, Murray county, Georgia. The name of that place was spelled with an 'h' at the end—'Chetopah,' and meant four houses; 'Che' in the Osage Indian language is house, and 'topah' is four. Chetopah had a town, and lived on the Verdgree River, west or northwest of Chetopa town. He was only chief of his town. Each town had a chief and there was a principal chief over all.

"I found five white, or partially white, families there when I arrived. They were the widow Tianna Rogers and family, consisting of four sons and three daughters, all grown, living about one mile north of Chetopa; William Blythe, whose wife was a white woman; Finchel Monroe, who had a white wife; Daniel Hopkins, a white man with a Cherokee wife; and a white man named Tucker, who had a Cherokee wife. These families lived near Chetopa, on the Neosho River, below where the town is at present. In 1848 I married Sarah Rogers, daughter of Tianna Rogers; we had born to us three sons and one daughter. Two of my sons, John and Albert, live in the Cherokee Nation, ten miles from Chetopa. The other two children are dead. Tianna Rogers and all the family are dead.

"John Mathews, a Kentuckian, who had



married an Osage woman, lived and had a trading-post at the point where Oswego now stands. He had been there some years when I came; he had a farm of about forty acres in cultivation on the prairie. He had a good house standing on top of the bluff in the edge of the prairie; there was a spring near it, just north and east of the house. His house was a framed house, with two stone chimneys, the framing timbers hewn out; it was boarded up on the outside with boards split or rived out of burr-oak trees, then shaved and smoothed, and the house sided up and painted white. It looked quite nice compared to our log houses. His house was plastered on the inside, done in workmanlike style. All of the rest of the people lived in log cabins. I do not know how long he came before I did—probably several years. He was a heavy trader, and wealthy. He had one negro woman with him who was a slave, till he was killed. He had fine blooded race-stock, with race track south and west of his house, and between his house and his cultivated land; he had fast horses. He would take trips to Missouri, Kentucky, Texas, and other States, racing, and was very successful. Mathews had a good many horses and cattle.

"Cattle lived without being fed, and did better in the winter than in the summer, for in the summer the mosquitoes and green-headed flies nearly ate them up. In the fall the peavine, and in the winter a winter grass and flag that grew around the lakes, made a good range for stock. Where you now have good farms we then had large lakes on which immense numbers of geese, ducks, pelican, swan, brant and other fowl flourished. We never fed hogs, but the hickory and other nuts furnished food that kept them fat. There were plenty of wild turkey, fish, antelope, deer and other game;

also honey-bees, wolves, panthers and other wild animals to hunt for traffic, and wild horses could also be caught on the prairie.

"There was a good deal of sickness, principally fever and ague, and no doctor within twenty-two miles; everyone had to be his own doctor. The winter of 1848-49, and also that of 1849-50, were unusually cold and severe. In the latter the snow was thirty inches deep, crusted on top, and stayed on the ground about six weeks. These two winters stock suffered a good deal, but other winters were not so bad, although I am of the opinion they were colder than they are since the country has settled up.

"The settlers lived by hunting and trading with the Osages, and other tribes of wild Indians that roamed over the country. The Cherokees claimed and extended their laws to the mouth of the Labette Creek, until the south line of Kansas was established. The Osages lived in towns, usually along the streams, with one chief to a town. One town, called Little Town, was situated where Oswego now stands. Pah-Che-Ka, one of the chiefs of the Osages, lived at Little Town. White Hair was the principal chief of the Osages, and lived on the Neosho River six miles south of Osage Mission, and down the river; this was the largest town in the Osage Nation at that time.

"The Labette Creek took its name from a Frenchman of that name who then lived on the creek nearly west of where Oswego now stands. He had a full blooded Osage for a wife. It is said he once lived opposite the mouth of Labette Creek; if he did it was before Dr. Lisle or myself saw that country; when I knew him he lived on the Labette, southwest of Oswego. He was a very common old Frenchman.

"There are many things of note that hap-

pened in an early day, and in the first settling of that country, that I could tell, that I cannot write.

"Yours, LARKIN MCGHEE."

"CHETOPA, KANSAS, August 1, 1892.

"*Hon. Nelson Case, President of the Historical Society*—DEAR JUDGE: In compliance with your request for a statement in reference to matters connected with my first visit to Labette county, and settlement therein I herewith comply.

"About 1850 I met a man by the name of Wilfred Cox, on a steamboat on the Ohio River, on his return from the West to his old home in Pennsylvania. He was a school teacher, and had taught in various places, and finally reached Council Grove, in this State; thence he came down to Osage Mission with stockmen, and from there in one way and another got down to the Abrose McGhee place, near where Chetopa now stands. This was some time probably in 1847 or '48. He built him a canoe in which he floated down the river to Van Buren; after teaching school there and at other points in Arkansas he started back home, and it was on this return trip that I saw him.

"He gave me a full account of the Neosho River and its scenery, describing the valley from the north of the Labette to the McGhee place; he said it was the finest valley he had ever seen. I made notes of what he said, took a full description of the country, and made a sketch of a map. On this information I decided to make a trip as soon as possible to this country. On March 20, 1857, in company with Abraham Ewers, George Ewers and Samuel Steel, I started from my home in Powhatan, Belmont county, Ohio, for the Neosho valley, at the point last spoken of by Cox.

I came on a steamboat to St. Louis, and from there to Osage City, Missouri, by rail; at that point we bought two yoke of oxen and drove through. We came by the Quapaw agency, where Major Dorn, the Indian agent, was located, with whom I had a conversation, and arranged to meet him a short time thereafter at Osage Mission to act as his clerk in the payment to the Indians of the funds coming to them from the Government.

"We crossed the Neosho River at Rocky Ford on the State line on the evening of April 17, 1857; there we camped near the residence of James Childers, who was a white man, and who had married one of the Rogers girls; he lived on the west side of the river, in what is now a part of Cherokee county. The next day he came with us to the present site of Chetopa, where I decided to locate, and where we encamped. After arranging with those who came with me to proceed to getting out the logs with which to build, I started for Osage Mission to meet Major Dorn. It was now near the last of April; I clerked for the Major during the disbursement to the Indians of their funds. During this time I attended a meeting of the council of the Osage chiefs, held at that place, at which they discussed the propriety of paying a bill of about \$39 to a young man by the name of Peyett, who had acted as interpreter to Dr. Griffith, of Carthage, who had a year before that time been sent by the Government to vaccinate the Osages. Several of the chiefs made speeches opposing the payment, saying, 'That if the Government intended to do them a kindness it ought to pay the interpreter as well as the doctor'; when they came to the close, White Hair requested Chetopa to speak for him, and he depicted in very strong language the horrors of the small-pox, and

what benefit they had received from the young man, who had well earned his money, and that being a just debt they should pay it, and suggested that it be paid by the chiefs; the ranking chief, White Hair, to pay \$10, and the other chiefs a less sum.

"After finishing my duties as clerk at this point I returned to my company at Chetopa, where I spent the summer with them in getting out and hewing logs for one house and having enough cut for another. Some time in July I started back to Ohio for my family, and returned with them, arriving at Chetopa about the 20th of November of that year.

"I was met at Jefferson City, to which point the railroad was completed, by the boys from Chetopa with a team, who brought us back to Chetopa in that way. While I was gone the boys had raised a house, which was a double log house with 12 feet space between the two parts; it stood on the northwest quarter of block 24, near where my residence now stands. The next season we put up a shop and office, which was made of shaved boards and covered with the same material; the boards of the roof being two feet long, while those covering the sides were four feet; I split and shaved them myself, out of pecan, in the winter of 1857-58. This building was 16 by 40 feet, one part of which was used for my office and drugs, and the other for a gun shop and blacksmith shop. It stood on the south side of what is now block 24, just west of the alley, about where my present office and shop stand. I also built a smoke-house and stable; inclosed about 25 acres with high rail fence, the rails being of walnut, and the fence was about ten rails high; the lot extended to about what is now Third and Sixth streets, and from about Maple on the south to Elm or Oak street on the north. I lived upon these premises until

November 19, 1863, when I was driven from them by the United States troops, and just as I was leaving saw them all in flames. I lost my library and other valuables in addition to the building that I have described. My wife, Phoebe, died on the last day of 1860, and my daughter Penina had married J. E. Bryan, and was then living at Council Grove.

"I took my daughter Martha, and two sons, Albert and John, and started for Council Grove on the day last named, November 19, 1863. The following persons also accompanied us on that occasion part of the way: Elizabeth and Christian McMurtry, two children of John McMurtry, who had recently died in the army; Larkin McGhee and family; Jane Jackson, whose husband was then in the army; and Mrs. Walker, whose husband had been driven into the Rebel army. In addition to my own property which was destroyed at this time, the following persons also had all of their property burned: Sarah Rogers had a large hewed-log house and a large stable on what is now Mr. Crichton's place north of town; George Walker, a Cherokee, had a house, stable, crib, etc., west of the river, just south of where Mr. Edwards' mill now stands; John McMurtry had a house near where the west end of the bridge across the Neosho now is, which was set on fire but would not burn, and was afterward torn down. Larkin McGhee had a house and stable and some grain just south of the branch south of Chetopa, on land now owned by Dr. Halderman. There were perhaps 300 soldiers composed of Indians and whites under the command of Captain Willits, Adjutant Ahle, and Lieutenant Joslyn, who did this burning, and who stated that they acted under instructions from their commanding officers. At this same time they arrested James Childers and demanded of him his money; they had been in-

formed that he had \$6,000 buried. At first he denied having any, but after they had put a rope around his neck and stretched him up for awhile, and after letting him down, he acknowledged having \$2,000, and told them where it was; they found this and wanted more; he said that was every cent he had. He was stretched up and let down two or three times, and was finally killed, his throat cut, and left unburied, and was eaten by the hogs. I asked to be allowed to go back and bury him, but was refused permission. I got this statement in reference to his being killed from his son. This entirely broke up the Chetopa settlement. I stayed at Council Grove until September, 1865, when I went back to Chetopa, and in November of that year moved my family back. I lived with George Walker that winter, and built on my farm across the river, and have ever since had my home in or near Chetopa.

"Soon after coming to the county I traveled up the Neosho, and came upon a clearing on the east side of the river nearly opposite the mouth of the Labette, where I was informed a Frenchman by the name of Pierre Labette had lived for a number of years, but who some time previous had moved west. It was from him that the creek was named.

"On the occasion of the United States troops coming down the river from the capture of Mathews, after he had been killed below Chetopa, a detachment of the troops came to the Chetopa settlement and arrested all of us, and took us to the Mathews premises at Little Town, now Oswego, where we were held in custody over night, during which time we were tried by court-martial for assisting or encouraging parties to go into the Rebel army. Colonel Blunt presided at the trial, and after a full hearing all of us were discharged,

but were kept, however, until the next day. While I was on my way back to Chetopa I could see the flames from the Mathews buildings, which had been fired by the troops before they took their departure. The evening before Mathews was killed he took supper at my house on his way down from his place to the Nation. When I returned from the Mathews place after our release as aforesaid, I started to bury him, but found that he had been already buried.

"In the fall of 1859 I got up a petition for a postoffice at my place, and had 41 signers between Little Town (now Oswego) and Timber Hill, in the Nation. I was instructed by the Department at Washington to have all the signers the heads of families, either male or female. I had all but two; they were away at the time, and did not get back until the petition had gone to Washington. Counting five to a family it would make 215; then counting thirty single men who had no families, I think there were about 250 when the war broke out, living on or near the river between the points named. I was granted the postoffice—and it was to be called Chetopa, Dorn county, Kansas—some time in the summer of 1860, but as there was no mail route near here which could carry the mail we had to wait until 1861 for a new route to be established, which was done, and the contract for carrying the mail from Grand Falls, by Quawpaw Mission, Baxter Springs and Cherokee on Cherry creek, Osage Mission, thence by Chetopa to Grand Falls, was advertised to be let in June, which was not done on account of the war breaking out that summer, and the mail arrangements in the southwest abandoned.

"Respectfully,

"GEORGE LISLE."

## SURVEYS.

In 1827 or 1828 the east boundary of the Osage reservation was surveyed by Major A. L. Langham, and the northeast corner established. In the summer of 1857 Colonel J. E. Johnston, with about 500 United States soldiers forming an escort to the surveying party, surveyed and established the south line of the State. This force was stationed for some time on Russell Creek. There were with the expedition two astronomers, two geologists, two botanists, and a number of engineers and surveyors. There were 20 wagons with which to haul provisions. After completing the survey to the southwest corner of the State, they came back, having their wagons loaded with salt which they had procured on the salt plains in the western part of the State. It was on this expedition that Colonel Johnston established the ford at Chetopa across the Neosho.

In 1871 the south line of Kansas was retraced in compliance with the 21st article of the treaty with the Cherokee Indians, made July 19, 1866. This work was done under the supervision of Rev. D. P. Mitchell as chief engineer. In the fall of 1884, commencing in August, a party of Government employees came to Oswego and established their headquarters, making astronomical observations and a geological survey of the country.

The survey of the Osage Ceded lands into sections was completed in the spring of 1867.

## LABETTE.

A number of articles have been written, and some of them by persons whose names would carry with them authority, on the origin of the name of the county. This name was first applied to the stream running through our

county, and subsequently to the county itself when it was organized. Two or three letters will be found in this work which incidentally refer to this matter. W. S. Mathews, son of the old Indian trader, says the Osage name for the stream meant "some kind of animal; then the French called it La Bette, which means the same thing." This more fully agrees with the origin of the name as commonly given, but is not to my mind as reasonable as that given by Larkin McGhee and Dr. Lisle; both of whom say that the name was given to the stream on account of the first white settler at or near its mouth—Pierre Labette. This man lived at one time on the east of the Neosho opposite the mouth of the Labette, and subsequently farther up the stream, and afterward went farther west. I think it reasonable to say that it was for him the stream was named; but whatever the origin of the name, it was given to the stream at a very early date. I have seen in a book originally belonging to the St. Louis office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and now in our State Historical Society, a map of the Osage survey made and signed by Isaac McCoy, dated Westport, Missouri, September 13, 1836, on which the stream is quite correctly located, and the name thereon written "Le Bete Creek." At the first Republican convention, held at Jacksonville in September, 1866, where it was agreed that Neosho county should be divided, it was on motion of G. W. Kingsbury agreed that the south part of the county, when it should be organized, should be called "La Bete." J. S. Waters, who was present and took an active part in the work of the convention, says: "That day was the first time I know of the word La Bete having been written; and it was that day written as I have written it above. There was some dispute as to whether there should be two or

one *t*. When the county was organized it was given this name as then agreed upon."

### BOUNDARY.

The following acts of the Legislature have in some way fixed or affected the boundaries of our county.

By section 10 of chapter 30 of the laws of 1855, all the territory lying south of Allen county was constituted the county of Dorn. Its east line was 24 miles west of the Missouri line, and its width was 24 miles (which was supposed to take it to the west line of range 18).

By "An act to more particularly define the boundaries of the several counties in Kansas Territory," approved February 22, 1857, the county of Dorn is made to commence at the corner of sections 14, 15, 22, 23, town 28, range 21; thence south to the Territory line, and west to same sections in range 17.

By chapter 31 of the laws of 1860, the east line of Neosho county is declared to be the line between ranges 21 and 22, and the western line the line between ranges 17 and 18; but as

yet no bill had been passed creating Neosho county.

By chapter 18 of the laws of 1861, approved June 3, 1861, the name of the county was changed from Dorn to Neosho.

By chapter 29, laws of 1867, approved February 7, 1867, Labette county was created, and made to embrace from the 6th standard parallel on the north to the south line of the State, and from Cherokee Neutral lands on the east to the east boundary of the Osage reserve on the west. Subsequently the Legislature made provision for a vote being taken as to whether the line between Cherokee and Labette counties should be as above fixed, or whether a part of the way the river should form the boundary. This legislation gave rise to a protracted dispute as to what really was the boundary between the two counties, but finally all parties interested acquiesced in considering the west line of the Cherokee Neutral Lands as the line between the two counties.

By chapter 38 of the laws of 1870, the east line of Montgomery county was made to run south between sections 2 and 3, thus taking a strip from Labette county and placing it in Montgomery.



# PERMANENT SETTLEMENT

## ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

At the general election in November, 1866, although we were legally a part of Neosho county, by mutual understanding between the people of what is now Neosho county and those residing in what is now Labette county, the latter took no part in the election of the county officers for Neosho county, but went through the form of holding an election of county officers for Labette county, with the understanding on their part that an act of the Legislature would be secured, legalizing the election and organizing the county with the officers thus elected, recognized by the Legislature as the legal county officers; or in the event such an act could not be secured, then that the officers thus elected would be appointed to the positions to which they were thus respectively elected. It seems to have been agreed that each locality might vote at this election and make their returns, although the place at which the votes were cast had not been established as an election precinct. Votes were received at Montana, Oswego, Chetopa, and possibly at Neola. I have found no one among the old settlers who remembers who it was that composed the board of canvassers at this election, but probably it was made up of parties from two or three of the different localities, mutually agreed upon by all; I judge from all I can learn that the canvass took place, and

the result was declared at Oswego. A full ticket was run by both the Democratic and Republican parties. The Republican ticket was elected by a large majority; the officers elected at that time were as follows: Representative in the Legislature, Chas. H. Bent; county commissioners, S. W. Collins, C. H. Talbot and Bergen Van Ness; county clerk, A. T. Dickerman; sheriff, Benjamin A. Rice; clerk district court, Elza Craft;; register of deeds, George Bent; county assessor, Jabez Zink; probate judge, David C. Lowe; county treasurer, C. C. Clover; county attorney, J. S. Waters; superintendent of public instruction, J. F. Newlon; coroner, G. W. Kingsbury. No one that I have found questions the correctness of the above list, except as to county attorney and probate judge. According to the remembrance of some of the old settlers there was no one elected county attorney, as at the time there was no one in the county who had been admitted to the bar; probably no one ran for county attorney at this election. And in respect to probate judge, the remembrance of some is that David Stanfield, instead of David C. Lowe, was the party elected. Of course the election had no validity, and all understood that it only amounted to an expression of public opinion as to persons whom the people would like to have for their first officers.

On the certificate of election furnished him, Mr. Bent went to the Legislature in January, 1867, and was admitted to his seat soon after the organization of the House. Little or no opposition was made to the bill introduced by him organizing Labette county, and on February 7, 1867, it was approved by the Governor and became a law. On March 7, 1867, N. P. Elsbree, Bergen Van Ness and Nelson F. Carr each made affidavit before C. H. Talbot, justice of the peace, to the fact of the county having a population of more than 600 inhabitants. Mr. Bent took these affidavits, together with a statement of the fact of the fall election, to Governor Crawford on March 10th, and secured from him on that day a proclamation designating Oswego as the temporary county seat, and the appointment by him of S. W. Collins, C. H. Talbot and Bergen Van Ness as county commissioners, and A. T. Dickerman as county clerk, these being the parties who had been respectively elected to those positions in November preceding. Mr. Bent at once came home, bringing with him the proclamation and the commission of the parties thus appointed.

We have no record of any of the official acts of the officers thus appointed; whatever record was kept of their doings has been either entirely lost or is so misplaced that it cannot be found. I have been unable to find a single word of official record pretending to give the transactions of any officers prior to June 5, 1867. The nearest I can come to making the statement of the organization of our county authentic is by giving the following letter from the then county clerk:

"OSWEGO, KANSAS, August 5, 1892.

"*Judge Nelson Case*—DEAR SIR: In reference to the organization of the county, and

the record of the same of which you ask, I will give a brief account. When Mr. Bent came back from Topeka in March, 1867, he brought with him the commissions of the officers who had been appointed to organize the county. Very soon thereafter Mr. Van Ness came down to Oswego and saw Mr. Talbot, and the two talked over what they thought should be done. It was agreed that Mr. Talbot should see Mr. Collins, the other commissioner, and have an election called. The three commissioners did not meet together, and in fact Mr. Van Ness never really qualified. The two other commissioners agreed on fixing voting precincts and calling an election. The four river townships were set off as they now are; the south one was then called Chetopa. The next two tiers of congressional townships were divided into three municipal townships, and named North, Labette and Hackberry. The balance of the county to the west was divided into two parts, and named Timber Hill and Pumpkin Creek. No election was held that spring in either of these two west precincts. The election was called for some time in April; I do not remember the exact date. I posted the notices of this election. The commissioners then met and canvassed the vote and directed me to issue certificates of election to the parties who were declared to be elected.

"I kept a record of the proceedings on foolscap paper, which I turned over to old father Clover, who acted as my deputy after the county was organized. The commissioners first held their meetings in a hewed-log house standing on block 24, belonging to C. H. Talbot.

Respectfully,

"A. T. DICKERMAN."

Persons who search for information respecting the organization of our county, as I

have done, will find a number of printed articles, some in newspapers and some in books, and among the latter the standard histories of our State, stating that the organization took place in May, 1867, the date they usually fix being the third Tuesday in May, and I have been unable to find anything giving a prior date. Notwithstanding this, I fix on April 22, 1867, as the time when our first county election was held, and in support of the time thus selected I offer the following: In the first place, to any one who has had any experience in Kansas politics it will not be worth while to argue that a set of men who had been appointed to offices on the 10th of March would wait a whole month or more before qualifying and entering upon the discharge of their duties, unless they were prevented from so doing by some uncontrollable force or necessity. I have never heard that these commissioners were in any way prevented from the exercise of their official duties, and from this fact I conclude that it was not many days after Mr. Bent's return from Topeka until they had qualified and taken some steps to make their official acts known. But there are references in the official records subsequently made which confirm this theory. In the record of the commissioners' proceedings on July 1, 1867, is the following:

"It is hereby ordered that the election for county-seat expenses be postponed until the question of county seat is decided. It is ordered that the election held the 22d day of April for county and township officers, the last amounting to \$80.40."

It will be seen that the clerk who made this record has not finished the sentence; but from the statement the inevitable inference is that an election had been held on the 22d of April.

And again on November 19, 1867, the following appears in the commissioners' record:

"Ordered, that Austin Dickerman be allowed the sum of thirteen dollars and 25 cents for service as county clerk in posting notices of the April election, 1867."

These are the only official references that I have found of the transactions of any of the county officers, in any way fixing the time when our first county election was held. However, the records show that as early as the middle of May, John N. Watson was exercising the functions of justice of the peace in Richland township; I find no one who claims that he was appointed, nor do I find anything in the office of the Secretary of State indicating that he was; he was evidently elected at the first election, which must have been held previous to the last-mentioned date. From all these considerations, I conclude the election took place on April 22d; thus giving ample time for the meeting of the commissioners after the return of Mr. Bent from Topeka, and thirty days' notice of the time and place of the election. Our record being lost, presuming one to have been kept, we have no official declaration of the result of this election, but we find certain persons exercising official functions, and from reference to them in official records subsequently made, we can arrive at a very nearly, if not an absolutely, correct conclusion as to who were elected; and the officers at that time elected were the following: County commissioners, Nathan Ames, Wm. Shay and David C. Lowe; county clerk, A. T. Dickerman; county assessor, Francis Wall; clerk district court, R. S. Cornish; register of deeds, Elza Craft; treasurer, C. C. Clover; sheriff, Benjamin A. Rice; superintendent of public instruction, John F. Newlon;

surveyor, Z. Harris; coroner, George W. Kingsbury. I find nothing indicating that any one was elected county attorney, and am somewhat in doubt as to who was elected probate judge, for the reason the record is silent on that subject; and among the old settlers I find no one who seems to be positive as to who was elected, and some of them have in their memory, somewhat indistinctly, however, different persons. I will here give what I find in the record in reference to the vacancy in the corps of officers: Two of the commissioners elected, viz., D. C. Lowe and Nathan Ames, met at Oswego on June 5th; this seems to have been the first meeting, and on this date we have our first official record, and from it it appears that Wm. Shay failed to qualify as commissioner, whereupon the office was declared vacant, and John G. Rice was appointed to fill the vacancy; thereupon, D. C. Lowe was elected chairman of the board. The next order made declared the office of assessor vacant, because of the removal from the county of the party elected, leaving him unnamed, however, and A. W. Jones was then appointed assessor to fill the vacancy. The next order is as follows:

"It is hereby ordered, that the office of probate judge be declared vacant on his not coming forward and qualifying and giving bond according to law. It is therefore ordered that Bergen Van Ness be appointed probate judge until the next general election in November, or his successor is qualified."

Some of the old settlers think that Van Ness was the party elected, but I think the force of this record is strongly against them. It seems that Mr. Van Ness did not at once qualify upon being appointed as aforesaid, for in the record of the commissioners' proceedings of July 3d is the following:

"Ordered, that Bergen Van Ness be appointed probate judge of Labette county, Kansas, to fill a vacancy of the probate judge owing to his not coming forward and filing his bond in the time required by law."

This language indicates that the person now appointed is the one who had failed to qualify, but evidently this refers to his failure to qualify under his previous appointment, and not his election. I have nothing more definite as to who was elected probate judge in April.

At the first meeting of the board, the county clerk was directed to order blank books and stationery from Luce & Griggs, Davenport, Iowa, "to be sent as per agreement;" and I find that the first orders on the county treasury were drawn in their favor, dated September 3, 1867, for the supplies thus ordered; order No. 1 was for \$199; orders Nos. 2 and 3 for \$24 each. At the same time that this order was made to this Davenport firm, the clerk was directed to make an order for other books and blanks for the assessor, treasurer and commissioners, which order seems to have been sent to Samuel Dodsworth, of Leavenworth. The following appears in the record of the commissioners for January 14, 1868:

"It is hereby ordered that the county clerk make out the proper statement of the proceedings of this for the general meeting commencing the first Monday in January, 1868, according to law, and forward the same for publication to the *Humboldt Union*."

This is the first order I find designating any official paper or in any way providing for the official publication of the proceedings of the county officers. It was not long after this order was made until the *Neosho Valley Eagle* was established, and I find that the pub-

lisher of that paper was allowed bills for printing. The first paper to be started in the county was the *Oswego Register*, which appeared in June of this year, and must have at once been given at least a part of the county printing, for, on July 8th, E. R. Trask, the publisher, is allowed an account of \$4 for county printing.

### LAND TITLES.

The Osage Ceded Lands were first brought into market by virtue of the joint resolution of April 10, 1869. Owing to the ruling of the Secretary of the Interior on the claims made by the railroad companies, only a part of the lands was disposed of under this law. After the Supreme Court of the United States declared the railroad companies' claims void Congress passed another act, which was approved August 11, 1876, under which the remainder of the Osage Ceded Lands was purchased. The Cherokee strip, on the south side of the county, was sold to the settlers under the act of Congress approved May 11, 1872.

### HARDSHIPS.

The experience of those who first came to this county is probably not very dissimilar to that which has attended early settlers in nearly every county. Some of them had sufficient means to make themselves as comfortable as they well could be, with the distance they were from market, though many of them were in very plain circumstances, and under very much more favorable conditions would have found it hard to make their families comfortable. As it was, there was necessarily a great amount of suffering. Provisions had to be hauled from so great a distance that the price con-

tinued very high all the time for several years. Flour was frequently \$15 a hundred, corn \$3 a bushel, meal \$6 a hundred, bacon 25 cents a pound, and other things in the line of living in proportion. Teams which were used for hauling provisions were poorly fed and consequently generally poor, and in going to Missouri for a load of provisions but a small load could be hauled. Frequently the streams were up so that for days they could not be crossed, which would necessitate the consumption of a large part of what had been procured before they reached their homes. Sometimes boats loaded with vegetables would be shipped down the Neosho from points up the stream where they were raised. In the fall of 1866 there was much sickness among the settlers, so much that there were scarcely enough well ones to wait on the sick. All of these things and many more contributed to make the lot of the early settler a hard one. In 1867 a sufficient amount of crops was raised to make quite a help in providing the new country with the necessities of life but it was not until 1868 that anything like a sufficient amount was raised to supply the demands, and even then very much had to be shipped in.

### FIRST ADMINISTRATION.

In September, 1866, A. W. Richardson died, and in December following, his son John Richardson was appointed administrator of his estate by the Probate Court of Neosho county. In February, 1867, he held a public sale of the effects of the estate. Francis Wall was auctioneer. The property was sold on time, and brought a good price, and every dollar of the purchase price was collected by the administrator. This was the first estate administered upon within the present limits of the county.

## MARRIAGES.

In this, as in very many other matters, there are several who claim the honor of being first; but the first marriage of which I have any information is that of J. E. Bryan and Penina Lisle, the ceremony of which was performed at Chetopa, September 4, 1860, by Rev. Mr. Rader. Of course there is no record of this, there being at the time no civil organization in the county, and no license procured. There were several parties married at quite an early date after the commencement of the settlement of the county, in 1865. It is possible that some marriage ceremony may have been performed prior to that of which I shall now speak; but I am quite sure that this is the first marriage in the county of which there is any official record. The marriage record in the Probate Court of Neosho county has the following:

*"State of Kansas, County of Neosho.*

"CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

"This is to certify that Mr. Wm. Wilcox and Miss Sarah Jane Marlow were married by me on the 5th day of August, 1866.

"GEORGE BENNETT, J. P.

"Recorded October 2, 1866.

"J. L. FLETCHER, Clerk."

## COUNTY-SEAT, AND COUNTY-SEAT CONTESTS.

The subject of county-seat in this county commences with the following proclamation by the Governor:

"STATE OF KANSAS, EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

"TOPEKA, March 10, 1867.

"Whereas, in due form of law it has been

made to appear that the county of Labette, State of Kansas, contains the required number of inhabitants to entitle the people of said county to a county organization:

"Now, therefore, I, Samuel J. Crawford, Governor of Kansas, by virtue of authority in me vested by law, and having commissioned special county officers, do hereby locate the county seat of Labette county, State of Kansas, at the town of Oswego in said county.

"In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my hand, and caused to be affixed the official seal of State.

"Done at Topeka, this 10th day of March, A. D., 1867.

"[Seal.] S. J. CRAWFORD."

At the first county election, held on April 22, 1867, in addition to the choice of county officers the electors voted upon the location of the county-seat, with the following result: Oswego received 156 votes, Montana 140 votes, and Neola 84 votes. On October 4, 1867, the commissioners "Ordered that an election on the permanent location of the county-seat of Labette county, Kansas, be held on the 5th day of November, A. D. 1867." The canvass of this vote shows that Oswego received 158 votes, Neola 144 votes, and Montana 95 votes. On November 21, 1867, on a petition, containing 251 names, for a county-seat election, it was ordered that such election be held on the 30th day of December, 1867. The vote was canvassed January 2, 1868, with the following result: Oswego, 204 votes; Neola, 122 votes; Montana, 109 votes; and the Geographical Center, 6 votes. The poll-books for Hackberry township and Iuka precinct in Neosho township were thrown out at this election, for incompleteness of return. Another election was held, on January 7, 1868, which was canvassed on January 10, 1868, and the



result declared to be as follows: Oswego, 211 votes; Neola, 122 votes; whereupon it was declared that "Oswego having received a majority of all the votes cast at said election for county-seat, it is hereby declared to be the county-seat of Labette, in the State of Kansas."

The next county-seat move seems to have been on April 12, 1869, when J. S. Waters presented a petition for a county-seat election, the consideration of which was had on the 13th and again on the 14th of the same month, on which last day it was rejected.

On January 5, 1871, D. G. Brown presented a petition, purporting to be signed by 1,494 citizens, asking for an election on the permanent location of the county-seat of Labette county. David Kelso appeared before the board and asked that it defer action on the petition for ten days or two weeks, to give time for an examination of said petition and to make a showing that it was not such a one as was required by law in order that an election may be ordered. The board gave two hours for making such a showing; whereupon several affidavits were filed, but after all objections the board made its order that an election be held on February 15, 1871, for permanent location of the county-seat.

On February 18, 1871, the vote was canvassed, and the result declared to be as follows: Whole number of votes cast, 3,715; of which Chetopa received 877, Oswego 1,011, Labette 1,588, Geographical Center 237, Center 1, Montana 1. The poll-books from Parsons precinct were not received, for the reason that no such voting precinct had then been established. The votes thus rejected were 51 for Oswego, 3 for Labette, and 2 for Geographical Center.

It was then ordered that a second election be held, on February 28th, to determine as between Oswego and Labette which should be

the county seat. In the meantime the friends of Chetopa commenced suit against the commissioners and obtained an injunction restraining them from canvassing the returns cast at the election on February 28th. On March 4th the commissioners met and heard extended arguments in favor of and against their proceeding with a canvass of the votes. As a record of a deliberative body, the report of the action of the board at this time, as found in its journal, is somewhat amusing. They finally determined "that they had no right under the injunction to canvass the vote, and that they would not canvass or proclaim any result, but would repair to the county clerk's office and there examine the packages purporting to contain returns, and filed in said office, and ascertain if said packages so filed contained poll-books in fact of the election held on February 28th, 1871, for the location of the county-seat."

About the time the commissioners had completed the inspection of the packages and ascertained the result of the votes, the deputy sheriff came into the room with an order for their arrest on contempt of court. On hearing had before the district judge they were discharged as not having intended any contempt by the unofficial canvass, and ascertaining the result of the vote cast on the 28th of February. Although not officially announced, the result of that vote as shown by the returns, and as given out and published at the time, was found to be as follows: Total vote 2,509, Labette 1,308, Oswego 1,201.

At the election held February 15th, the vote of Liberty township, which included the town of Labette, was 952, all but three of which were cast for Labette, while at the election held but thirteen days later the vote of this township had dwindled down to 372. At the first

election the vote of Oswego township and city was 672, and at the second election it was 687. At the first election Iuka precinct cast 305 votes, all for Labette; while at the second election she was content with a poll of 58 votes, all of which were for Labette.

During this 1871 contest over the county-seat, parties attempted to make capital for themselves, or for some other cause, on the strength of their promise as to what would be done for or against certain localities in the county-seat vote. D. C. Hutchinson and W. M. Rogers, claiming to represent the settlers' association, went to Chetopa and got \$500 donated to the settlers' organization, with the promise, as was generally understood, that the settlers would in turn give Chetopa their support for the county-seat; and soon thereafter the North township council tendered a vote of thanks to Chetopa for her generous contribution. It is not improbable that like attempts were made to secure funds from other points on similar promises.

During this canvass also other attempts were made to influence the voting, which, if intended in good faith, were perhaps less objectionable. To induce the location of the county-seat at Labette, the town company offered to pay the expenses of the election, and set aside a block of ground to be donated to the county on which to erect county buildings. In January, 1868, a somewhat similar proposition had been made by Oswego, she proposing to pay expenses of election and to furnish a court-house building free for two years if she were chosen county-seat. A public meeting was held at Mound Valley, at which it was voted to offer to pay \$5,000 into the county treasury provided the county-seat were located at that point and remained there for five years, and in addition to donate a block of ground

400 feet square and the use of a town hall until the county could do better; and further offered to donate grounds for an agricultural fair.

It would be hard to give even a faint idea of the bitterness of feeling engendered, and of the amount of corruption practiced at this time. Persons who were considered good and honest citizens seemed to have no scruples in encouraging and assisting illegal and fraudulent voting, in tampering with ballot-boxes, and fixing up returns to suit the emergency, so as to give the place for which they were working a majority.

On July 9, 1874, a petition containing 2,193 names was presented to the board of county commissioners, asking that an order be made for an election for the purpose of voting on the relocation of the county-seat. A large number of business men and attorneys from Parsons appeared and argued in favor of granting the petition, and a like representation from Oswego appeared and argued against the petition. The matter was under consideration a large part of the time from the 9th to the 17th of July, during which time nearly every phase of the law relative to county-seat elections was discussed, and many important questions were passed upon by the board. Among these may be mentioned: Who are competent petitioners; from what rolls the number of electors in the county are to be determined; the right of a party who has signed a petition to withdraw his name therefrom; the right to add names after the petition has been presented. The board finally determined that the number of electors in the county as shown by the tax-rolls was 3,564. From the 2,193 names on the petition, 174 were stricken off for various reasons; some because appearing there twice, some because put there by other parties with-

out authority, some because they were not legal electors, and some because they requested their names to be stricken therefrom. After these names were stricken from the petition, there were left thereon 2,019. There not being three-fifths of the total number of electors, the board on July 17th unanimously voted not to order an election.

On January 14, 1880, the commissioners invited Chetopa, Oswego and Parsons cities and Mount Pleasant and Mcund Valley townships to submit propositions as to what they would do toward furnishing a building, of a kind designated in the order, for court-house and offices, and in case of removal of county-seat, a jail, and the payment of the costs of removal; such propositions to be submitted to the electors of the county at a special election to be called for that purpose.

On January 15, 1880, A. M. Fellows presented to the board a petition said to contain about 2,700 names, asking an election to be called for relocating the county-seat. Consideration of this was had on the following day, and being found insufficient, was denied, and leave given to withdraw the same. On January 27, 1880, Angell Matthewson presented a petition for an election to relocate the county-seat, and attorneys for petitioners objected to anyone being heard to argue against granting the petition, on the ground that it was an *ex parte* matter in which no one but the petitioners were known to the board. The objection was overruled, and the board decided to hear parties for and against the petition. After consideration of the petition from day to day up to February 7, 1880, the board on that day found that the petition contained 2,495 names, only 1,168 of which were the names of legal electors, and that as the number of names on the

assessment-rolls was 3,374, it would require a petition containing the names of 2,024 electors to entitle them to an order for a county-seat election. It was thereupon ordered that the prayer of the petitioners be denied.

This controversy over the application for an election in 1880 was somewhat mixed up with the matter of building a new court-house. In both matters the representatives of Parsons attempted to institute legal proceedings in the name of the State. An injunction was applied for to restrain the building of the court-house, and a mandamus was asked to compel the commissioners to count parties as petitioners for an election although their names did not appear on the assessment-rolls. Application was made to the Attorney General to allow the suits to be conducted in the name of the State. The request was granted on condition of certain preliminary steps being first taken. This course was not taken, and the cases in the name of the State were dismissed. A mandamus proceeding by W. G. Adkins, one of the petitioners, was instituted to compel the board to count him, and others similarly situated, as legal petitioners, but the Supreme Court held that he was not authorized to maintain the suit.

The last public effort that was made to obtain a county-seat election was in 1889. During a large part of that summer petitions were in circulation in nearly every neighborhood in the county, asking that an election be called. One of the peculiar features of this effort was the form of petition which was adopted. It was really a contract whereby each party who signed it agreed with every other one who signed it, not to ask to have his name stricken off. This petition, however, has never yet been presented to the board.

## COUNTY BUILDINGS.

During the first two years the county officers held their offices in such temporary quarters as could be secured, and the court was first held in the second story of the Buntain building, then standing on the southwest corner of block 25, and now standing on the northwest corner of block 11; and thereafter it was held in the second story of the Fleming building, on lot 17 in block 31, now occupied by O. E. Woods as a lumber-yard office.

In the summer and fall of 1868 the citizens of Oswego by private contribution erected a one-story frame building 24 by 36 feet, 12 feet high, on lot 20 in block 39, in which to hold church, school and public lectures. This building was ready for occupancy in the fall of 1868, and in it was taught the public school that winter. The Oswego Town Company, having repaid the money to those who had contributed for the erection of this building, took it off their hands, and on February 15, 1869, in consideration of \$1 to them paid by the county commissioners, conveyed said lots with said building thereon to the county commissioners for the benefit of Labette county, and on the same day the town company entered into a contract with the county commissioners for the erection of a stone building 12 feet square and 12 feet high, and to cost not less than \$1,000, and to donate the same to the county for a jail; the county commissioners agreeing to accept and use the same for that purpose. Thereupon the town company employed J. H. Sawin to erect such a building, and it was built on the west end of lot 1, block 18, and was ready for occupancy in July of that year. The building above described, donated to the county by the town company, was at first used only for a court-house, the county offices still

remaining scattered over town in temporary quarters rented for that purpose. The first term of court held in this building was in October, 1869.

On January 8, 1870, the commissioners, having taken the opinion of the county attorney, and being advised by him that they were fully authorized so to do, decided to put up an addition to the court-house, to be used for offices by the county officers. They thereupon entered into a contract with Rev. Joseph A. Cox for the erection of such an addition, to be about 24 by 30 feet, for the sum of \$900; and they appointed Elisha Hammer agent of the county to superintend the erection of such an addition, and upon its completion to accept it and deliver to the contractor the county orders in payment for the same. On the completion of this addition, it was divided into four offices, in which most of the county officers were able to find quarters. Soon thereafter, however, the clerk of the district court and sheriff removed their offices to the main room used for a court-house.

The building referred to, erected for a county jail, for the number of prisoners who frequently had to be placed therein, was found to be unfit for the purpose, and occasionally, before the new jail was built, prisoners had to be taken to some neighboring county, usually Bourbon, for safe-keeping. No other building was provided by the county until 1879. In April, 1879, the commissioners contracted with Samuel Fellows for the erection of a large stone building in the rear of the court-house, for which they agreed to pay him \$698.56. The building was completed in May, and in it the commissioners placed three iron cells, for which they paid \$750 and freight. While this building was quite an improvement on the first, it was still insufficient both in size

and construction for a county jail. Over and over again did the judge of the district court and the grand jury, as well as the public press, declare this building to be a totally unfit place in which to confine prisoners. Four and sometimes six prisoners would be confined in one of these small cells. Dampness and lack of ventilation and, almost of necessity, with such a number as it contained, a large degree of filthiness, characterized this building, and made its maintenance a blot on our good name. However, it was not until 1890 that better accommodations were provided. In 1890 the city of Oswego proposed to the county to erect on the court-house premises a substantial two-story brick building, the use of which the county was to have free so long as she desired to occupy it as a county jail, and during the summer such building was erected. In 1891 the old cells and three additional new iron ones, for which the county paid \$1,800, were placed in this building.

On July 10, 1880, the commissioners conveyed the first stone building used as a jail to the city of Oswego for use as a calaboose.

On December 4, 1879, H. C. Hall and C. O. Perkins offered to rent from the county the court-house site for ninety-nine years, and to erect thereon a brick or stone building of sufficient size and accommodation for county purposes, which they would lease to the county for a term of years at a reasonable rent. Whereupon the board accepted their proposition, and agreed if they would erect the building described, which was substantially the one subsequently constructed, they would rent it for ten years, and pay therefor as rental \$900 for the first year and \$600 per annum thereafter. On January 14, 1880, the board rescinded its action taken on December 4, 1879, and revoked the contract; but on January 17th, on the execut-

ing of a bond by certain citizens, which was approved by the board, conditioned that they would pay the rent on the proposed building to be erected by Messrs. Hall and Perkins, the board ratified and confirmed its order made on December 4, 1879; whereupon the proposed building was erected, and on May 23, 1880, being fully completed, was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. In 1883 the county commissioners caused brick vaults to be constructed for the offices of the register of deeds and the clerk of the district court.

The shade trees which add so much to the appearance of the property were set out in 1881.

#### FURNISHING COUNTY OFFICES.

The record of the proceedings of the commissioners at their first meeting, on June 5, 1867, contains this order:

"It is further ordered, that the county officers shall hold their offices at home until a place is provided by said board of commissioners."

However, temporary offices were soon thereafter provided in Oswego for most of the officers. On January 14, 1868, I find among the proceedings of the board the following order:

"County clerk is hereby ordered to give notice to the various county officers of this county when and where county offices have been provided, when the same shall have been so provided."

On November 12, 1870, is the following order:

"County offices having been provided with furniture, ordered, that county officers keep office in court-house from November 20, 1870."

The first order which I find referring to

the furniture for county offices is on January 14, 1868, when the commissioners adopted the following:

"Whereas, the county offices of this county are destitute of furniture: and whereas, such furniture is absolutely necessary for the transaction of business in said offices, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the county clerk be and is hereby authorized to procure for said offices the following articles of furniture: Twelve office chairs, two tables 3 by 6 feet, one coal stove of large size, one book case; said furniture to be purchased or procured on the most advantageous terms to the county, and paid for out of the county treasury with any money not otherwise appropriated."

On July 7, 1868, the commissioners allowed bill to Hanford & Pierson in the sum of \$19 for one half-dozen office chairs. This seems to have been the first bill of furniture bought by the county. On the same day the commissioners made the following order:

"It appearing to the board that it is necessary, in order to preserve the books, records and papers belonging to the county, that they should be placed in a safe, and there being no safe in the possession of the county authorities, therefore, be it ordered by the board, that the county clerk enter into contract with R. W. Wright or some other person for the use of a safe for one year upon the following terms: The county will pay five per centum on the cost of the safe, and the county to have the use of one-half of the safe, with the privilege of going to the safe at pleasure. The safe to stand in R. W. Wright's business house, if rented of him; if rented of any other person it is to be placed in county rooms or some building convenient thereto."

On January 8, 1869, it is "Ordered by the board, that the county clerk and treasurer be

and are hereby authorized to purchase a safe from G. R. Tileston, of Chetopa, if in their opinion it will answer the purpose of the county, at a price not to exceed \$245;" and on April 12th following the bill of R. G. Tileston in the sum of \$245 for a safe was allowed, and the further bill of H. C. Bridgman in the sum of \$16 for services in going to Chetopa and purchasing the safe was also allowed. On July 29, 1870, the commissioners made a contract with Beard & Bro., of St. Louis, for two safes, one with burglar-proof box for county treasurer and one large fire-proof safe for county clerk, for which they agreed to pay \$1,000.

These items are given for the purpose of showing how gradually the commissioners furnished offices and provided safeguards for the county property. Small bills of office furniture were procured from time to time as the necessities of the case seemed to require, but at no time has there been any lavish expenditure of money in furniture or other accommodations for the county offices.

### SELF-ORGANIZED COURTS.

Prior to the summer of 1866 there was really no civil protection for the settlers residing in what is now Labette county, it being then a part of Neosho county. They had in theory civil officers, but they were so far away, and the organization of Neosho county was at the time so crude and imperfect, that little reliance could be placed by the settlers in this part of the county receiving any aid from the officers up there.

In June, George Bennett, of Montana, was appointed justice of the peace, and in September, C. H. Talbott, of Oswego, was likewise appointed. But even after their appointment,



the arm of the law could hardly be said to have sufficient strength to vigorously deal with law-breakers. This lack of civil law, almost of necessity, forced the settlers into an organization of their own for the purpose of protecting their rights and rendering redress to those who complained of having suffered grievances. Several of these organizations were formed early in 1866, and in them a sort of judicial air was maintained and the forms of law partially observed, and to the end that the real party at fault might be discovered, and only those who were guilty should suffer. One of these organizations, known as the Soldiers' Club, was organized at Oswego in the spring of 1866; W. C. Watkins was president; D. M. Clover vice-president, and Maj. Victor secretary. It met in Clover's cabin by the river. Another of these organizations was formed by the settlers on Hackberry and Labette creeks; another one existed at Oswego, and still another on the Neosho, in the northern portion of the county. Each of these had more or less business in the way of settling disturbances among the settlers, and on one or two occasions resort was had to measures which to some would seem severe.

Francis Wall, of Fairview township, had a yoke of oxen stolen. Investigation revealed the fact that James Moss, a settler on Hackberry, had been peddling meat about the time that Mr. Wall's oxen were missing. The local court became satisfied that Mr. Moss and some of his neighbors were the parties guilty of stealing Mr. Wall's oxen, and concluded that the best thing to do was to have them leave the county, and then to appropriate and sell their claims and apply the proceeds toward reimbursing Mr. Wall for his oxen, and the balance to be used for contingent court expenses. A committee visited the parties at their homes

and informed them of the judgment of the court, to which they took several exceptions; but the order was imperative, and by the help of some of the members of the court the goods of these parties were placed in their wagons and they were told that the best thing for them to do was not to be seen there any more. It was not long after this until a deputy sheriff from Neosho county came down for the arrest of some dozen members of the court who were engaged in this act of depopulation. The parties were taken in charge by the deputy sheriff and his posse, but before they had reached the line that now divides Neosho and Labette counties, the Neosho county party were induced to believe that it would be as well for them not to further insist on taking their prisoners with them. A proper return was made out on the warrant relieving the officers from responsibility, and the parties returned to their homes.

A large part of the business of these courts was in settling disputes between settlers in reference to their claims. Very few men were found who would insist upon a course of conduct which had been condemned by one of these courts, and usually their judgments were as well obeyed as are those of the courts that have since been established by law.

#### DISTRICT COURT.

Labette county was a part of the territory constituting the Seventh Judicial District of the State of Kansas until the 1870 session of the Legislature created the Eleventh Judicial District, since which time until 1901 Labette county was comprised in that district. On February 22, 1901, a law went into effect, detaching Montgomery and Labette counties from the Eleventh Judicial District and form-

ing them into the Fourteenth Judicial District. Cherokee county, alone, now forms the Eleventh Judicial District. The judges of the court have been William Spriggs, of Garnett; John R. Goodin, of Humboldt; William C. Webb, of Fort Scott; Henry G. Webb, of Oswego; Bishop W. Perkins, of Oswego; George Chandler, of Independence; John N. Ritter, of Columbus; Jerry D. McCue, of Independence; and A. H. Skidmore, of Columbus.

On June 5th, 1867, the board of county commissioners "Ordered that the District Court will organize in Labette county, Kansas, at as early a day as practicable; W. Spriggs, Judge, will be notified by the county clerk to fix the day and month." And thereafter, on August 19, 1867, the board made the following request:

*"To the Hon. Mr. Spriggs, Judge of the Seventh Judicial District: We, the undersigned Commissioners of Labette county, do hereby request that you order a grand jury for the October term of the District Court for Labette county, State of Kansas."*

The first term of the court held in the county convened on Monday, October 7th, 1867, and continued until the 11th, when it finally adjourned. In compliance with the request of the county commissioners, a grand jury had been ordered and drawn, and the first thing done upon the opening of court was to call the list of the grand jury. The following persons responded: H. W. Latham, D. B. Shultz, James F. Molesworth, David Stanfield, Joseph McCormick, J. S. Lee, Dempsey Elliott, W. C. Watkins, and W. D. Birum. Upon the direction of the court, the sheriff filled in the panel with the following: Z. Harris, J. M. Dodson, Wm. H. Reed, E. W. King, Enos Reed, and J. Huntley. These 15 were duly sworn and charged. Joseph McCormick was

appointed foreman, and Charles E. Simmons, deputy sheriff, was assigned to them as their bailiff.

The next action taken by the court was the appointment of W. J. Parkinson as county attorney. The following attorneys seem to have been admitted to practice in other courts, and to have been recognized as attorneys at this, viz.: J. D. McCue, W. P. Bishop, W. J. Parkinson, and W. A. Johnson. Committees were appointed to examine applicants, and after what was supposed to have been an examination and the applicants having satisfactorily shown their qualifications therefor, the following were duly admitted to practice: N. L. Hibbard, J. S. Waters, Charles H. Bent, J. F. Newton, W. C. Watkins, and C. C. Clover.

As far as appears from the records, no case, either criminal or civil, was tried at this term of court. Some preliminary matters in the shape of demurrers, motions to make record more complete, etc., were presented to and decided by the court. A jury was impaneled in one case, but plaintiff finding it necessary to amend petition, the case was continued without trial.

The first indictment found by the grand jury was against Samuel Gregory, who was charged with assault and battery with intent to kill Willoughby Doudna, with a whip-stock; and by another indictment he was charged with attempting to kill James M. Dodson with a revolver. From the fact that at a subsequent term of the court Mr. Gregory, with consent of the county attorney, pleaded guilty to an assault and battery alone, and was released from the charge with intent to kill, upon which plea he was fined \$10 by the court, it may fairly be inferred that the offense was not considered very aggravated.

The first motion that seems to have been

made in court was by J. D. McCue, to require the justice to send up a complete transcript in case No. 1, James P. May *vs.* John Stag-inaff, which was an appeal from Justice Logan's court.

This was the only term of court in this county presided over by Judge Spriggs. Before the convening of the next term, in April, 1868, the Hon. John R. Goodwin had succeeded Judge Spriggs on the bench.

### HOME FOR THE POOR.

Prior to 1873 the poor of the county had been cared for by the trustees of the respective townships, and the bills contracted in their support paid by the county. This item of expense became a heavy burden, and a general desire for a better system was expressed. The county commissioners submitted to the electors of the county, at the spring election held April 1, 1873, a proposition to vote \$10,000 to purchase and improve a poor-farm. The proposition carried by a large majority. The bonds were sold to Hobart & Longwell, at 85 cents on the dollar. The commissioners bought the northwest quarter of S. 33, T. 33, R. 21, and paid therefor \$4,000. They immediately made arrangements for the erection of a house thereon, and by October of that year the house now standing on said farm was ready for occupancy.

On May 7, 1873, it having been determined to open the asylum for the poor in temporary quarters until the county house could be erected on the farm just purchased, T. B. Julian and his wife Emily C. Julian were employed as superintendent and matron of the house, at a salary of \$40 a month for the former and \$20 a month for the latter; they to provide a building ready-furnished, and receive and

care for all the poor who would be sent them; the county to furnish provisions. Under this arrangement the asylum was opened about the 10th of May, 1873, in the two-story building then and now standing on lot 8, in block 39, in Oswego, on the north side of the block on which the court-house stands. Here it was kept until the county house was finished, in October of that year, when the home was permanently established there.

### LIST OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF POOR-FARM.

T. B. Julian, from May 8, 1873, to September 8, 1874; H. G. Newton, to October 3, 1876; W. H. Carico, to October 10, 1878; Robert A. Hogue, to March 1, 1880; James H. Haggerty, to February 15, 1884; John McCaw, to November 6, 1884; J. H. Haggerty, to March 1, 1885; J. A. Warbington, to March 1, 1889; William Dudgeon, to March 1, 1891; L. H. Summers, to March 1, 1892; William Dudgeon, to 1897; L. H. Summers, to 1901; George Guntle.

### BRIDGES.

#### NEOSHO TOWNSHIP.

Before any other township had moved to bridge its streams, or any action had been taken by the county looking to that end, Neosho township, early in 1868, took steps to bridge several of the streams leading into the Neosho. A tax of one and one-fourth per cent., to pay for such bridges, was levied that year. The dissatisfaction that resulted from this action was because of the belief that the money was not to be honestly appropriated, but that bridges of an inferior quality would be erected, for which a large price was to be paid. Thereupon, Anthony Amend was appointed commis-

sioner by the board of county commissioners, to make estimates and oversee the construction of these bridges.

#### PROPOSITIONS BY THE COUNTY.

On June 21, 1871, the board, on petition of 96 electors, submitted a proposition to vote \$40,000 for bridges in the county, and an election was called for July 21st. This proposition was opposed by the *Register*, but favored by the *Advance*; the latter, however, advocating making it \$75,000 instead of \$40,000. Afterward the commissioners changed the amount to \$105,000, and fixed the date of election for the latter part of August. It was proposed to expend the money as follows: \$20,000 each for four bridges over the Neosho at points at or near Chetopa, Oswego, Montana, and Parsons, and the balance was to be expended in bridges at one or more points over Labette, Hackberry, Pumpkin, and Big Hill creeks. A large anti-bridge-bond meeting was held at Mound Valley, and strong grounds taken against the issuance of bonds. On canvassing the vote it was found that not a single vote had been cast for bonds excepting in four townships; these were as follows: Montana 1, Labette 5, Chetopa 156, Parsons 83, total 245; all the rest of the vote, amounting to 1,295 votes, was against the bonds.

#### BRIDGES ACROSS THE LABETTE.

The first bridge in the county built by order of the county commissioners was across Labette Creek, west of Oswego. The steps leading to this commenced on July 17, 1869, when the commissioners ordered the question of issuing \$1,300 in bonds to be submitted to the electors at the next general election. At the

election held in November of that year, the proposition for issuing bonds was carried, and on December 16th following the board issued \$500 of the amount so voted to Thomas Powers, and contracted with him for the construction of the bridge. On November 14, 1870, the contractor having failed to complete the bridge, the \$500 (amount appropriated by the county) being insufficient, the commissioners sold said bridge to Thomas Powers and W. W. Babbitt, who proposed to make of the same a toll bridge; they agreeing to pay the county \$1,000 in ten years. On February 20, 1871, Messrs. Horner, Weaver, Patrick and Condon were appointed a committee to see about the re-purchase of this bridge for the county. On March 3d they reported that the bridge was worth \$2,500, and recommended the board to liquidate the outstanding obligation against it, and to assume control of the same. On April 3d, by agreement, the contract with Messrs. Powers and Babbitt was canceled, the county agreeing to pay \$850 and take the bridge. The bridge was soon thereafter completed. On April 12, 1878, an order of the board was made to repair this old bridge, at a cost of not to exceed \$985. Subsequently this order was revoked, and on June 5th a new bridge was ordered constructed. The site of the bridge was changed from the section line to a point farther down the creek, near where it crosses the township line from Fairview township to Oswego township. In 1884 this old wooden bridge was replaced by an iron bridge, at a cost of \$1,995.

On April 17, 1878, the board directed the construction of a bridge across the Labette, on the line leading from Oswego to Chetopa, at a cost of \$999. With this a wooden bridge was constructed, and ready for crossing in October of that year. This bridge stood until

1885, when it was replaced with an iron structure, at a cost of \$2,000.

In 1883 an appropriation of \$1,300 was made for a bridge across the Little Labette, and in 1884 an appropriation of \$2,500 for a bridge across the main Labette, both near Parsons.

A good bridge also spans this stream in Liberty township, west of the town of Labette; and perhaps there may be bridges at other points, of which I have not spoken.

#### BRIDGES ACROSS THE NEOSHO.

In the fall of 1871 Chetopa voted \$10,000 for a bridge across the Neosho, work on which was commenced at once, and the abutments were completed early in 1872. Before the reorganization of the board of county commissioners in January, 1872, the old board made an appropriation of \$950 to aid in the construction of this Chetopa bridge. This was a frame structure, and was completed in 1872; it remained until the spring of 1878, when it was washed away by high water. During the next year there was no bridge at this point, a ferry-boat being the means of crossing. In the spring of 1879 steps were taken to build a new bridge; it was nearly done, when, in July, a wind storm blew it down; work was again commenced, and it was nearly completed when, on August 14th, it was again entirely washed out by a rise in the river; it was not until November that the bridge was completed and ready for use. This bridge was a combination of wood and iron and cost \$1,900, \$999 of which was paid by the county, and the balance by Chetopa.

In 1888 this bridge gave place to the fine iron structure which now spans the Neosho at

that point and which was erected entirely by the county, at a cost of \$8,500.

On June 30, 1872, Oswego city and township voted \$20,000 for the purpose of constructing two bridges across the Neosho; one was to be located north and the other south-east of town. A contract was made with the King Iron Bridge Company for the erection of these two bridges, for the sum of \$19,650, to be completed by December of that year. By some means the bonds were issued and delivered before any work was done, and as usually happens under such circumstances, the work was not done. Finally, some two years thereafter a compromise was effected with the bridge company whereby it was to put in one bridge and be released from its further obligation. In 1874, under this arrangement, the bridge now spanning the Neosho north of town was constructed, and on November 27th of that year teams passed over it for the first time. On June 7, 1886, Oswego donated this bridge to the county, and it was accepted by the county as a county bridge.

In 1885 it was arranged between the officers of Oswego city and the commissioners of Cherokee county to build a bridge across the Neosho at a point directly east of Oswego, in Cherokee county. Under this arrangement an iron bridge was constructed during the year, for which Oswego built the piers and abutments and Cherokee county put on the structure. In April, 1885, the middle pier of this bridge, which was then being erected, was washed away; in February, 1886, the bridge was completed and accepted.

Several efforts have been made to secure a bridge across the Neosho at Montana. On September 29, 1881, Dr. J. M. Mahr presented the petition of himself and 131 others, asking for an appropriation to build a bridge

at that point. The commissioners did not make the appropriation, for the reason that the amount required was beyond the amount they were authorized to grant; but they made an order submitting a proposition to the electors to vote on at the November election, whether or not they would authorize the issuance of \$9,000 for the construction of such a bridge. At the election 309 votes were cast in favor of the proposition and 1,513 against it.

In 1885 the Legislature passed an act authorizing the commissioners to build a bridge across the Neosho, at a point to be designated by three commissioners appointed in the act.

At the time of the passage of this law it was intended that provision was to be made for two bridges—one at Montana, and one east of Parsons and these points were designated by the commissioners. Notwithstanding the strenuous efforts that were made to procure an appropriation for a bridge, the board of county commissioners refused to act that year.

In January, 1886, under authority of the act of 1885 above referred to, the board appropriated \$7,000 for a bridge across the Neosho directly east of Parsons, and it was built that season.

In 1888 the board made an appropriation of \$8,500 for the construction of a bridge across the Neosho at Montana, and with this the iron bridge now spanning the stream at that point was built.

#### BRIDGES ACROSS OTHER STREAMS.

Without going into the particulars as to each appropriation made for bridges over the various streams in the county, I may say that appropriations have been made by the board for bridging all the streams in the county at

nearly every point where they are crossed by the principal thoroughfares: Hackberry, Pumpkin, Deer, Bachelor, Big Hill, The Cut-Off, Chetopa, Turkey, as well as some of the smaller creeks, are spanned with substantial bridges which have been erected at the county's expense.

I think the general opinion is that the money expended for these bridges has been as wisely appropriated as any that the board has been called upon to make, and that no one feels that too much has been done in that direction.

In building these bridges the board has usually required the township in which the bridge was located to put in the approaches, and sometimes to do even more than this; but generally the main part of the expense has been borne by the county.

#### U. S. CENSUS.

TOWNSHIPS	1870	1880	1890	1900
Neosho.....	515	728	621	515
North.....	581	895	850	803
Walton.....	477	694	714	677
Osage.....	930	1,394	1,588	1,486
Mound Valley (including city).....	275	1,408	1,829	1,840
Labette.....	282	626	773	697
Liberty.....	720	906	861	938
Montana.....	783	871	838	697
Oswego.....	640	942	660	493
Fairview.....	464	852	826	824
Mt. Pleasant (including Altamont city).....	249	657	1,230	1,255
Canada.....	480	675	741	705
Howard.....	.....	752	828	827
Elm Grove (including Edna city).....	.....	1,096	1,400	1,454
Hackberry.....	637	1,104	1,184	1,220
Richland.....	784	1,280	1,068	1,047
CITIES				
Chetopa.....	960	1,305	2,265	2,019
Oswego.....	1,196	2,351	2,574	2,208
Parsons.....	.....	4,199	6,736	7,682
Total of county..	9,973	22,735	27,586	27,387
Eltamont.....	.....	.....	454	546
Adna.....	.....	26	321	374
Mound Valley.....	.....	138	545	533



## ASSESSMENT FOR 1867.

The following is the amount of taxable property in the several townships of the county as reported by the county assessor on the first assessment ever made of the county in the year 1867:

NAME OF TOWNSHIP	Amount of Taxable Property	NAME OF TOWNSHIP	Amount of Taxable Property
Oswego.....	\$18,126 00	Montana.....	\$9,369 50
Chetopa.....	16,961 00	Neosho.....	17,120 00
Hackberry.....	5,609 00	Labette.....	3,116 00
Canada.....	2,549 00	Big Hill.....	1,862 00
North.....	4,596 00		

## TAX SALES.

So many different considerations enter into the question of the payment or non-payment of taxes that I shall not attempt to assign any reason for the fact that in several years a very large proportion of the real estate has gone to tax sale. In 1877 an act was passed authorizing a sale of all real estate on which any county or city held tax-sale certificates; proceedings were required by which a judgment was rendered determining the amount due on each tract, and directing the sale of such tract to be made by the sheriff substantially as upon execution. Under the provisions of this act, one and one-half pages of the *Independent* were occupied in July, 1877, by a notice describing the real estate on which judgment was to be asked. A small part of this property was redeemed before it went to sale, but the bulk of it was sold in December of that year, under these proceedings. As will be seen by the following statement, prior to 1877 very much more land went to sale for taxes than after that date. In 1873 the *Advance* contained 25 solid columns of description of real estate to be sold at tax sale. In 1874 the *Independent*

contained 35 columns of such matter; in 1875, 23 columns. In 1876 the list was embraced in eight columns in the *Herald*. In 1877 it filled but seven and one-half columns of the *Independent*. In 1878 12 columns of the *Independent* were required; and a less amount of space has been required each year since.

## COUNTY EXPENSES.

The first few years no detailed annual report of the county expenses was made; there are one or two reports prior to 1871, but it seems evident that the figures there are incorrect. Reports exist subsequent to 1870, but as to some of them it is probable that they do not cover exactly a year, and it is also quite evident that some mistakes have been made by the party who copied them or by the printer; but it is believed the following table shows substantially the amount expended by the county each fiscal year. For a number of years the fiscal year ended with July, but more recently it has closed with October:

1871.....	\$21,125 74	1886.....	\$48,296 44
1872.....	23,621 81	1887.....	36,261 62
1873.....	36,380 92	1888.....	44,897 14
1874.....	31,459 45	1889.....	41,019 93
1875.....	27,439 71	1890.....	34,150 48
1876.....	23,814 89	1891.....	31,244 44
1877.....	23,895 28	1892.....	34,834 10
1878.....	31,789 84	1893.....	33,943 82
1879.....	40,976 25	1894.....	42,559 05
1880.....	32,797 62	1895.....	41,201 78
1881.....	27,224 96	1896.....	44,617 05
1882.....	38,589 13	1897.....	42,363 88
1883.....	40,958 43	1898.....	41,158 55
1884.....	47,760 60	1899.....	40,976 25
1885.....	40,657 53	1900.....	49,885 92

## COLORED PEOPLE.

From almost the first settlement of the county, there have been a few colored people living in it, a number of whom have been successful and have made good homes. Dairy Nero settled upon the southeast quarter of

section 15, adjoining Oswego, in 1866, and entered it at the Government land office; he made it his home until 1889, when he sold it for a good price.

On April 4, 1870, the noon stage brought the news of the ratification of the fifteenth amendment, whereupon the colored men then in Oswego were informed of their rights, marched to the polls, the election being then in progress, where they deposited their ballots. Spencer Jones, who was the porter of the Oswego House, was the first colored man in the county, and of course one of the first in the State to exercise the right of suffrage.

In the fall of 1879 the "exodus" began, and hundreds of colored people, principally from Texas and Tennessee, and also many from other parts of the South, arrived in the county. Chetopa, Oswego and Parsons were almost overrun by them. Their coming was unexpected, and no provision for their care and comfort had been made. Buildings for shelter could not be procured. They were mostly without means, destitute of everything like comfortable clothing, and in a condition to appeal strongly to the sympathies of charitable people. Rough board sheds were erected and made as comfortable as could be, in which large numbers were housed for that winter. During the next year or two others came in, until the number of colored people formed quite a large percentage of the population of the cities named. Quite a number also were scattered over the county, more especially in the river bottom.

A very great improvement has been made in their condition both intellectually and financially, and there are now among the colored people many well-to-do families, who are intelligent, industrious, and moral. Some of

course have remained shiftless, trifling, and worthless. From all appearances they are a permanent part of the population.

### ATHLETICS.

Almost from the first settlement of the county lovers of base ball have been organized, and have done what they could toward making the game popular and successful. As early as 1871 clubs were organized at Oswego and Chetopa, and within the next two or three years organizations were had at several other places in the county, and frequent local contests took place. The craze seems to have reached its highest point in 1885, when there was a great strife by the Oswego club to be the champions not only of the county but of Southeastern Kansas, and under the leadership of F. C. Wheeler great proficiency was attained. The interest in the game has been kept up to a considerable extent, but since the departure of Mr. Wheeler it has never created the excitement it reached at that time.

In the fall of 1885 a ladies' broom brigade was formed, and attained a considerable degree of skill at drilling under the command of Colonel True.

The roller-skating craze had perhaps for a season the greatest run of anything in the line of athletics that has been witnessed in the county. The height of its prosperity was witnessed about 1884. Commodious and well-furnished rinks were erected at Parsons and Oswego, and perhaps at other places in the county, and their owners supposed that they had a permanent and well-paying business established; but the interest died out as suddenly as it arose, and nothing farther was heard of it.

## OFFICIAL DELINQUENCIES.

The county has been extremely fortunate since its organization in haing officers who performed their duties satisfactorily and who were true to the trust reposed in them. There have been three or four instances in which the county has been required to commence legal proceedings in order to collect from its officers money which they held in their official capacity. When H. C. Bridgman went out of office as treasurer, his accounts were found to be short. A suit against him and his bondsmen was instituted, pending which a settlement was had, in which it was agreed that he was indebted to the county in the sum of \$8,750. This was settled by him and his bondsmen as follows: The county commissioners took from them the quarter-section of land on which they located the poorfarm, at the agreed price of \$4,000. They gave their note for \$3,000 and paid \$1,750 in cash. By this means the county was saved from any financial loss.

When S. B. Abbott, the sheriff, completed the tax sale under the proceedings of 1877, he reported that he had received \$1,698.02, and that his charges for fees and services were \$2,008.48. These charges were largely in excess of what the law authorized. Suit was brought by the commissioners to recover from

him fees which he illegally held. The matter was finally settled by his paying \$802.62.

Under a change of law regulating the fees of county officers, a question arose between the county and one or two of its officers as to what fees they were entitled to, and, not agreeing on the construction of the law, the matter was settled in court. This was prior to 1892. Since then questions affecting fees and salaries of county officers have arisen and some of them are still in court, undetermined. A committee that was appointed to examine the several county offices a few years ago reported some delinquencies, which have never been turned into the county treasury.

## RECEPTION OF PRESIDENT HAYES.

In the evening of September 24, 1879, President Rutherford B. Hayes and wife, General W. T. Sherman, George St. John and wife, and other dignitaries arrived at Parsons on their way to Neosho Falls, where they were to attend the district fair. People from all parts of Labette county went to Parsons, where a reception was tendered the Presidential party. An address of welcome was made by T. C. Cory, which was responded to by President Hayes and General Sherman. In the evening the whole assemblage was presented to the party.

## INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS—COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

---

### FIRST WHEAT CROPS—THRESHING MACHINES AND GRIST-MILLS.

In the fall of 1866 Charles Wadsack sowed a few acres of wheat, which he harvested the following summer; this was probably the first wheat crop raised in the county. There was no threshing-machine here at the time, and he was compelled to thresh it by a more primitive method, which was by having his horses tread upon it. When he got it to the mill, it was so dirty that it would not make flour very palatable; however, it was the best that could be done, and it furnished him with something in the line of breadstuffs during that year.

Quite a number of farmers had enough ground in cultivation by the fall of 1867 to enable them to put out fairly good crops of wheat, and in 1868 the first machinery for harvesting and threshing was brought to the county. The first threshing-machine was brought into the county by Ed. and George Cubbison. There were so many parties having wheat threshed who were all anxious to get it done early, that some of them had to be disappointed, and occasionally when the machine was through with a job, the neighbors would take possession of it and put it at work at the next nearest place instead of allowing it to go out of the neighborhood.

In 1870 Martin Jackson brought on a new reaper and Thomas Phillips a threshing-machine; these were probably the first machines of this kind south of Hackberry.

The first mill in the county, so far as I have learned, that was prepared to do anything at grinding wheat, was John Hart's mill, on the Labette. In addition to the corn buhrs which he had been using, he put in wheat buhrs in the fall of 1868, and was able to grind wheat for the farmers in that community. It was not until about 1873 that self-binders and steam threshers appeared.

### CASTOR BEANS.

It is said that W. W. Robbins, in Pleasant Valley, was the first person in the county to raise a crop of castor beans. This was in 1873. The yield was so good that the following season many others planted, and since then this has been one of the largest crops raised.

### TAME GRASS.

On July 8, 1873, Col. F. Swanwick brought a load of timothy to Oswego, which he sold to B. F. Hobart, at \$8 per ton. The next day he sold a load of clover to H. C. Draper, at the same price. This was the first tame hay

marketed in the county. At that time very few farmers had commenced to raise tame grass. Since then its production has generally increased, until now the crop of tame grass is quite an item in the annual production of the county.

#### COTTON INDUSTRY.

In the spring of 1873 G. W. Everhart procured the seed and distributed it among the farmers along Labette creek, and secured the planting of quite a large acreage of cotton in the vicinity of Parsons. Mr. Everhart put in a small cotton-gin that fall, which he continued to operate some two or three years, when it was removed to the Indian Territory. On February 5, 1874, a cotton convention was held at Parsons which resulted in awakening quite an interest in connection with the raising of this product. After 1876 there was nothing done in the way of raising cotton until 1879, when an enterprising colored man from Texas who was living on David Romine's place, a few miles southwest of Oswego, planted several acres of cotton and induced several other colored men living along the Neosho river to also put out a few acres. Mr. Romine assisted in the erection of a cotton-gin at Oswego that fall, and it was found that the crop was large and profitable, considering the small number of acres that had been planted. In 1880, 98 bales were ginned and shipped; in 1881, 145 bales; in 1882 a very much larger acreage was planted, but the fall was so wet that it cut the crop short, and but 70 bales were ginned. The prospect was good again in 1883 for a large crop, but this year, as the year previous, it was cut short by the wet fall, and but 45 bales were ginned. Two years of partial failure rather discouraged those who had been engaged in the business, and very little

if any was planted thereafter in this vicinity. In 1889 the Oswego gin was taken to Chetopa, in the vicinity of which a few colored men had raised small crops, but the amount that has been raised the last few years has been inconsiderable.

#### GRASSHOPPERS.

In the fall of 1866 grasshoppers came in great quantities. Of the little crop that was raised that year most of it was matured so that they did not damage it, but everything that was green was devoured by them. They stayed until cold weather came. A rain in the fall filled the little brooks, and so washed them down stream that in places wagon-loads of them could be gathered up. The following February was so warm that the eggs hatched, and a hard freeze coming on in March killed the young hoppers; so they bothered no more at that time. The next visit they made this county was in September, 1874. They came in one day in such myriads that what was green in whole fields of corn was devoured by them in a single day. All the trees were stripped of their leaves, and fruit trees were left bare of all foliage, hanging full of ripe apples. They laid their eggs and disappeared in the fall, so that the wheat crop then sowed was not all destroyed. About the last of March in the following spring they commenced hatching, and during April and May ate the young crop about as fast as it came on. Corn had to be planted two or three times, the last planting extending into July. About the last of May they commenced moving, and during the fore part of June they were nearly all gone. In September, 1876, there was another visitation of them, but not to as great an extent as there had been two years preceding.

In 1875 farmers learned that very much could be done towards destroying the hoppers and saving the crops. Several methods of destruction were used, among others plowing a deep furrow into which the hoppers were driven and then covered, either by refilling it with dirt or by putting straw over them and burning them up.

### FISH AND GAME.

All the streams of the county are well supplied with fish. They are more numerous, of course, in the Neosho than in the smaller streams. Many have been taken from the Neosho measuring from four to six feet in length and two and one-half feet in circumference, weighing from 60 to 100 pounds.

On July 5, 1875, a large catfish of about the size just described got into a basin on the riffle at Motter's ford, east of Oswego, and could not get away. Two men who were crossing caught it, and brought it to town.

In the early settlement of the county large numbers of wild animals of various kinds were caught, and added very much to the stock of provisions of the early settlers. Deer, antelope, wild geese and turkeys, and prairie chickens, as well as other birds and animals, were found in abundance. Coyotes, badgers and other carnivorous animals were here in larger numbers than was desirable to the settlers. As the country became settled they became less numerous.

### BOUNTY.

On July 11, 1877, the county commissioners passed an order putting into operation chapter 76 of the Laws of 1877, giving a bounty on scalps of certain wild animals. Under this order, almost an innumerable number of scalps

was presented during the years the law was in force, and large sums of money were paid as bounty therefor. The law remained in operation under the above order until January 13, 1885, when the commissioners made an order revoking their previous one. For several years no bounty was paid on the scalp of any wild animal, but for a number of years past the county has paid a bounty on wolf scalps.

### DEHORNING STOCK.

In January, 1886, G. J. Coleman, of Mound Valley, created something of an excitement in the neighborhood by dehorning his cattle. This was the first instance in which that system of treatment of stock had been practiced in this county. A party who was not friendly with Mr. Coleman caused his arrest on the charge of cruelty to animals. On the trial he was acquitted, having convinced the jury that his process was one of mercy rather than of cruelty to animals. Ever since that time this system of treatment has been generally practiced.

### TEXAS FEVER.

In 1866, and for several years thereafter, the people frequently became alarmed over the introduction of Texas cattle and the spread of Texas fever among native stock. Several farmers lost quite a number of their cattle from what was supposed to be Texas fever. A number of arrests were made of those who had been instrumental in bringing stock into the county, but it was seldom that a conviction was had. It was a disputed question as to whether or not the stock died from the effects of disease contracted from those introduced, and there was a large enough element in the county interested in bringing cattle in from the



south to make quite a sentiment in the minds of the public opposed to such prosecution. However, the law was finally enforced so vigorously that few parties attempted its violation.

#### HEDGE AND WEED LAW.

In 1897 a law was passed authorizing counties to vote on putting into operation the requirement for the trimming of hedges and the cutting of weeds in the public roads. The commissioners submitted this to a vote in 1898 and it was carried, but on account of some omission in the action of the commissioners, it did not go into effect. It was again submitted to a vote at the general election in November, 1899, and was again carried. Thereupon, the commissioners caused it to be proclaimed and in operation.

#### NATURAL GAS.

For a number of years past, a belief has quite generally prevailed that our county is within the natural gas belt, and various efforts

have been put forth to discover it. The first gas found in the county was in Mound Valley, in 1883, while prospecting for artesian water was going on. While some use was made of this, the amount was not sufficient to furnish either light or heat to any number of families. In 1894, Oswego did some work at prospecting but with no practical result. In 1900, another effort was made, and in December gas was struck at a depth of about 500 feet; but still the pressure was not sufficient to justify its use. At the time of this writing, prospecting is still progressing. In 1898 gas was found at Chetopa, not in a large quantity, but with sufficient force to be used for lighting and heating to a limited extent. Near the close of 1900, farther prospecting was done at Mound Valley and with better results than theretofore. It is now believed that they have it in a sufficient quantity to justify its use. Those interested are still hoping that farther prospecting will discover it at some point in the county in much larger volume than has yet been secured. In 1897 Parsons secured gas for its inhabitants by contracting for its being piped there from Neodesha.

## FIELD CROPS

On the pages following will be found in tabulated form a full report of the various field crops of the county, from 1872 to 1900 inclusive, showing acreage, product and value. For these valuable tables I am indebted to the reports of the State Board of Agriculture.

TABLE SHOWING THE ACRES, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN LABETTE COUNTY.

CROPS	1872			1873		
	Acres <sup>1</sup>	Product	Value	Acres	Product *	Value *
Winter wheat..... bu.	23,165	475,300	\$712,950	23,765	.....	.....
Spring wheat..... bu.	51	612	612	84	.....	.....
Corn..... bu.	31,486	1,083,915	216,783	34,631	.....	.....
Oats..... bu.	11,113	333,390	66,178	10,608	.....	.....
Rye..... bu.	131	1,834	1,375	283	.....	.....
Barley..... bu.	12	468	374	16	.....	.....
Buckwheat..... bu.	92	1,380	1,380	49	.....	.....
Irish potatoes..... bu.	764	60,356	36,213	1,380	.....	.....
Sweet potatoes..... bu.	30	3,090	2,317	64	.....	.....
Sorghum..... gals.	286	16,302	8,151	379	.....	.....
Castor beans..... bu.	186	3,720	5,208	156	.....	.....
Cotton..... lbs.	3	396	199	107	.....	.....
Flax..... bu.	1	10	12	41	.....	.....
Tobacco..... lbs.	4	2,000	400	10	.....	.....
Millet and Hungarian..... tons	745	1,762	8,810	576	.....	.....
Timothy meadow..... tons	214	428	4,280	214	.....	.....
Clover meadow..... tons	205	410	2,460	207	.....	.....
Prairie meadow..... tons	16,711	25,066	75,198	8,510	.....	.....
Timothy pasture..... tons	34	.....	.....	6	.....	.....
Clover pasture..... tons	10	.....	.....	10	.....	.....
Blue-grass pasture..... tons	462	.....	.....	463	.....	.....
Prairie pasture..... tons	28,068	.....	.....	27,238	.....	.....
Totals.....	114,373	.....	.....	109,048	.....	.....

CROPS	1874			1875		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat..... bu.	32,402	583,236	\$466,588	38,075	761,515	\$723,439
Spring wheat..... bu.	36	360	234	12	150	112
Corn..... bu.	37,641	752,820	526,974	44,490	1,868,601	373,720
Oats..... bu.	7,836	117,540	58,770	6,591	242,886	48,577
Rye..... bu.	262	5,240	3,668	313	7,210	4,326
Barley..... bu.	41	779	662	3	90	108
Buckwheat..... bu.	38	380	570	5	110	123
Irish potatoes..... bu.	1,330	26,600	33,250	1,100	138,731	55,492
Sweet potatoes..... bu.	91	6,825	10,920	99	15,497	11,622
Sorghum..... gals.	485	38,800	25,220	905	113,244	48,128
Castor beans..... bu.	800	9,600	12,000	1,564	18,777	18,777
Cotton..... lbs.	90	8,100	1,053	101	20,298	2,029
Flax..... bu.	436	4,360	7,040	2,036	20,362	24,434
Hemp..... lbs.	4	3,000	150	5	4,125	2,681
Tobacco..... lbs.	17	11,900	1,190	12	8,894	662
Broom corn..... lbs.	54	37,800	1,753	95	78,904	3,949
Millet and Hungarian..... tons	1,104	2,208	13,248	1,215	3,950	15,800
Timothy meadow..... tons	343	515	3,090	266	333	1,998
Clover meadow..... tons	189	378	2,268	63	159	954
Prairie meadow..... tons	5,485	5,485	21,940	10,055	15,082	60,328
Timothy pasture..... tons	83	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clover pasture..... tons	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Blue-grass pasture..... tons	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Prairie pasture..... tons	24,708	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	113,521	.....	.....	106,825	.....	81,397,264

<sup>1</sup> There is nothing of record, either in the office of the State Board of Agriculture or elsewhere, which shows the product and value by counties for 1873.—[N. C.]

TABLE SHOWING THE ACRES, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN LABETTE COUNTY

CROPS	1876			1877		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	40,297	604,455	\$544,009	25,557	255,570	\$247,902
Spring wheat.....bu.	5	40	32	2	20	17
Corn.....bu.	47,748	1,909,920	420,182	66,759	2,670,380	480,664
Oats.....bu.	11,861	343,969	85,892	8,579	394,634	59,135
Rye.....bu.	389	7,780	4,356	200	2,800	840
Barley.....bu.	8	240	144	77	1,925	577
Buckwheat.....bu.	73	965	868	74	1,184	947
Irish potatoes.....bu.	1,736	260,512	208,410	1,061	106,100	53,050
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	120	24,100	19,280	84	12,600	12,600
Sorghum.....gals.	436	47,987	23,993	743	85,445	42,722
Castor beans.....bu.	531	6,372	11,894	1,615	22,610	22,610
Cotton.....lbs.	61	12,350	1,235	31	3,454	527
Flax.....bu.	1,955	17,595	29,325	314	5,270	3,626
Hemp.....lbs.	74	74,500	4,283			
Tobacco.....lbs.	32	25,704	2,570	30	22,200	2,220
Broom corn.....lbs.	173	139,000	5,560	166	132,800	4,980
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	2,178	4,356	30,492	3,140	9,420	37,680
Timothy meadow.....tons	220	275	1,926	673	1,144	5,720
Clover meadow.....tons	152	304	2,133	84	168	840
Prairie meadow.....tons	5,738	5,738	22,952	11,004	18,706	54,249
Timothy pasture.....	212			50		
Clover pasture.....	1			28		
Blue-grass pasture.....	195			137		
Prairie pasture.....	25,585			26,590		
Totals.....	139,784			146,998		

CROPS	1878			1879		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	33,135	490,755	\$270,990	26,389	395,835	\$376,043
Spring wheat.....bu.	19	190	104	42	336	285
Corn.....bu.	65,985	2,243,490	426,263	77,549	2,946,162	736,715
Oats.....bu.	13,376	454,784	72,665	16,746	385,158	100,141
Rye.....bu.	368	6,992	2,097	289	4,335	1,734
Barley.....bu.	69	2,070	1,035	75	1,350	675
Buckwheat.....bu.	154	3,090	2,432	80	1,211	1,090
Irish potatoes.....bu.	1,312	78,720	45,657	1,004	45,180	38,403
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	95	10,836	7,910	128	8,988	8,988
Sorghum.....gals.	688	79,134	39,567	986	113,300	51,025
Castor beans.....bu.	1,900	26,607	33,258	6,603	79,242	79,242
Cotton.....lbs.	1	255	22	17	2,975	267
Flax.....bu.	370	3,705	3,705	575	4,025	4,025
Hemp.....lbs.	1	230	13			
Tobacco.....lbs.	13	10,278	1,027	23	17,412	1,741
Broom corn.....lbs.	36	28,904	1,083	130	91,133	3,189
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	2,021	6,063	24,252	2,830	8,490	33,960
Timothy meadow.....tons	1,139	1,937	9,687	1,735	2,603	13,016
Clover meadow.....tons	209	418	2,092	347	555	2,778
Prairie meadow.....tons	24,783	42,131	122,179	10,376	13,488	39,117
Timothy pasture.....	251			167		
Clover pasture.....	23			30		
Blue-grass pasture.....	475			632		
Prairie pasture.....	31,831			30,792		
Totals.....	178,258		\$1,075,188	177,549		\$1,492,438

## HISTORY OF LABETTE COUNTY

TABLE SHOWING THE ACRES, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN LABETTE COUNTY

C R O P S	1880			1881		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	35,628	494,420	\$412,699	40,518	405,180	\$445,698
Spring wheat.....bu.	13	104	88	11	55	52
Corn.....bu.	70,806	2,365,792	566,448	94,061	1,696,098	981,996
Oats.....bu.	12,192	426,720	110,947	8,052	249,612	82,371
Rye.....bu.	372	5,580	2,232	436	6,104	4,761
Barley.....bu.	52	780	390	8	208	166
Buckwheat.....bu.	32	384	345	48	576	432
Irish potatoes.....bu.	1,297	129,700	110,245	3,097	77,425	116,137
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	113	14,736	14,736	184	10,120	15,180
Sorghum.....gals.	536	61,709	27,769	506	43,010	20,644
Castor beans.....bu.	6,885	82,620	82,620	8,071	104,923	146,892
Cotton.....lbs.	175	29,750	2,677	222	66,600	6,660
Flax.....bu.	1,092	9,828	9,828	680	5,440	7,616
Hemp.....lbs.	21	25,500	1,580	5	4,200	294
Tobacco.....lbs.	6	4,440	444	25	17,500	1,750
Broom corn.....lbs.	37	22,650	792	430	279,500	12,577
Rice corn.....bu.	20	400	160	9	90	58
Pearl millet.....tons	111	445	1,780	463	1,620	8,910
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	4,049	12,147	48,588	3,719	8,368	62,760
Timothy meadow.....tons	1,056	2,112	10,560	923	1,615	12,112
Clover meadow.....tons	371	649	3,248	644	1,288	9,660
Prairie meadow.....tons	9,975	14,963	43,392	16,892	22,249	144,618
Timothy pasture.....	288	.....	.....	509	.....	.....
Clover pasture.....	62	.....	.....	115	.....	.....
Blue-grass pasture.....	808	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other grasses.....	.....	.....	.....	583	.....	.....
Prairie pasture.....	29,502	.....	.....	39,139	.....	.....
Totals.....	175,501	.....	\$1,451,522	218,350	.....	\$2,081,350

C R O P S	1882			1883		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	25,571	562,562	\$450,049	34,667	416,004	\$353,603
Spring wheat.....bu.	25	300	210	483	4,347	3,042
Corn.....bu.	83,125	3,925,000	1,163,750	89,249	4,016,205	1,204,861
Oats.....bu.	12,907	516,280	139,305	13,870	624,150	156,037
Rye.....bu.	566	10,574	5,914	994	.....	.....
Barley.....bu.	41	1,148	516	.....	.....	.....
Buckwheat.....bu.	43	344	258	35	315	236
Irish potatoes.....bu.	1,030	82,400	57,680	1,632	130,560	78,336
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	94	7,050	7,050	140	12,600	12,600
Sorghum.....gals.	709	63,810	27,714	754	66,352	27,867
Castor beans.....bu.	12,036	110,754	110,754	2,931	32,241	48,361
Cotton.....lbs.	130	24,050	2,405	76	17,100	1,539
Flax.....bu.	2,004	24,048	22,845	1,400	14,000	15,400
Tobacco.....lbs.	16	11,200	1,120	25	20,000	2,000
Broom corn.....lbs.	165	82,500	3,712	215	107,500	3,762
Rice corn.....bu.	22	352	176	56	1,120	392
Pearl millet.....tons	196	588	2,352	.....	.....	.....
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	5,579	16,737	100,422	8,941	29,058	101,703
Timothy meadow.....tons	1,684	3,368	20,208	2,159	4,318	21,590
Clover meadow.....tons	224	560	3,360	672	1,512	7,560
Prairie meadow.....tons	25,058	37,587	150,348	.....	.....	.....
Other tame grasses.....tons	.....	.....	.....	1,818	4,091	14,318
Prairie, under fence.....tons	.....	.....	.....	70,200	91,260	273,780
Timothy pasture.....	318	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clover pasture.....	1,118	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other grasses.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Prairie pasture.....	56,934	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	229,610	.....	\$2,271,242	233,317	.....	\$2,326,991

TABLE SHOWING THE ACRES, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN LABETTE COUNTY.

CROPS	1884			1885		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	35,404	672,676	8417,059	11,873	142,476	\$106,857
Spring wheat.....bu.				54	486	365
Corn.....bu.	95,474	3,914,434	861,175	102,808	2,570,200	771,060
Oats.....bu.	13,612	558,092	128,361	16,007	560,245	140,061
Rye.....bu.	791	15,029	7,514	748	7,480	3,740
Buckwheat.....bu.	14	112	72	34	408	204
Irish potatoes.....bu.	1,776	222,000	153,400	1,489	89,340	62,538
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	54	7,020	5,616	81	3,240	2,592
Sorghum.....gals.	385	38,500	15,400	351		11,730
Castor beans.....bu.	2,708	35,204	52,806	6,448	64,480	103,168
Flax.....bu.	1,395	16,740	18,414	1,791	10,746	9,671
Tobacco.....lbs.	1	850	85	4	3,200	320
Broom corn.....lbs.	85	46,750	1,636	75	45,000	1,800
Rice corn.....bu.	163	3,260	1,238			
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	10,922	36,042	198,231	14,587	43,761	115,044
Timothy.....tons	3,025	5,808	37,752	8,709		
Clover.....tons	1,697	3,818	22,908	2,715		
Orchard grass.....tons				547	30,498	152,490
Blue grass.....tons				2,497		
Other tame grasses.....tons	2,796	6,990	34,950	781		
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	66,916	95,020	403,835	66,676	47,959	167,856
Totals.....	237,218		\$2,362,455	238,275		\$1,709,497

CROPS	1886			1887		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	17,812	213,744	\$149,621	15,816	316,320	\$189,792
Corn.....bu.	104,383	1,878,894	637,612	85,063	2,128,575	744,301
Oats.....bu.	20,494	614,820	184,446	23,926	837,410	209,352
Rye.....bu.	749	11,984	5,992	138	2,070	828
Barley.....bu.	5	100	30	20	400	160
Buckwheat.....bu.	22	330	198	42	630	472
Irish potatoes.....bu.	1,511	90,660	54,396	1,302	104,160	78,120
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	48	4,800	4,800	101	10,100	10,100
Sorghum.....bu.	524		17,495	592		19,540
Castor beans.....bu.	5,769	57,690	86,535	8,946	89,460	80,514
Cotton.....lbs.	11	3,300	264			
Flax.....bu.	643	6,430	5,787	830	8,300	7,055
Tobacco.....lbs.				2	1,200	120
Broom corn.....lbs.	253	126,500	4,427	165	99,000	3,465
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	11,431	22,862	114,310	5,250	10,500	42,000
Timothy.....tons	16,418			14,268		
Clover.....tons	3,138			2,793		
Orchard grass.....tons	388	37,143	216,618	292	* 5,437	38,059
Blue grass.....tons	2,406			1,896		
Other tame grasses.....tons	1,366			1,208		
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	63,250	41,227	164,908	43,555	24,049	96,196
Totals.....	250,621		\$1,667,440	206,205		\$1,520,075

\* Product of 1886.

TABLE SHOWING THE ACRES, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN LABETTE COUNTY.

CROPS	1888			1889		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	14,066	267,254	\$221,820	22,703	431,357	\$267,441
Spring wheat.....bu.	70	1,120	784	26	416	199
Corn.....bu.	80,702	2,501,762	650,458	80,577	2,417,310	410,942
Oats.....bu.	17,495	804,770	169,001	14,418	360,450	50,463
Rye.....bu.	271	5,420	2,439	383	9,575	2,681
Barley.....bu.	30	900	315			
Buckwheat.....bu.	36	540	405	13	130	78
Irish potatoes.....bu.	1,027	92,430	60,079	1,349	134,900	53,960
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	114	10,260	4,890	120	12,000	4,890
Sorghum.....bu.	1,215	20,754	40,269	1,007	17,017	36,252
Castor beans.....bu.	2,306	20,754	20,754	2,431	17,017	30,630
Cotton.....lbs.	7	2,100	168	14	4,200	338
Flax.....bu.	725	5,800	5,220	682	5,456	5,456
Hemp.....bu.				1	700	35
Tobacco.....lbs.	86	51,600	5,160	2	1,200	120
Broom corn.....lbs.	56	44,800	1,568	10	6,000	210
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	5,430	10,860	43,440	5,077	10,154	40,616
Timothy.....tons	10,393			10,809		
Clover.....tons	1,628			3,057		
Orchard grass.....tons	170	*4,829	28,974	209	†7,972	31,888
Blue grass.....tons	1,688			2,271		
Other tame grasses.....tons	5,628			606		
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	45,066	27,808	83,424	71,149	30,969	92,907
Totals.....	188,209		\$1,344,540	216,914		\$1,029,016

CROPS	1890			1891		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	21,380	256,560	\$223,207	43,542	740,214	\$577,966
Spring wheat.....bu.	10	100	82	5	80	60
Corn.....bu.	42,254	1,056,350	492,540	62,187	1,243,740	460,183
Oats.....bu.	15,752	472,560	165,396	44,122	1,147,146	321,200
Rye.....bu.	230	2,990	1,495	494	7,410	4,594
Barley.....bu.				30	750	375
Buckwheat.....bu.	2	32	32	112	1,680	1,512
Irish potatoes.....bu.	1,341	80,460	80,460	723	43,380	24,726
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	20	1,600	1,600	55	4,785	4,067
Sorghum.....bu.	424		15,264	442		17,680
Castor beans.....bu.	3,727	37,270	46,588	2,640	21,120	26,400
Cotton.....lbs.	28	11,200	896	20	5,000	400
Hemp.....bu.	1,192	21,920	27,400	10,542	63,252	50,601
Tobacco.....lbs.				10	7,000	350
Broom corn.....lbs.	48	9,600	288	69	1,200	120
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	3,055	4,582	18,328	2,770	5,540	22,160
Alfalfa.....tons				10		
Timothy.....tons	9,768			12,650		
Clover.....tons	2,856			3,693		
Orchard grass.....tons	89	†8,229	57,603	52	§8,541	42,705
Blue grass.....tons	1,553			1,456		
Other tame grasses.....tons	792			695		
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	48,315	19,809	69,331	63,363	23,783	83,240
Totals.....	153,836		\$1,130,510	249,683		\$1,638,865

\*Product of 1887. †Product of 1888. ‡Product of 1889. §Product of 1890.



TABLE SHOWING THE ACRES, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN LABETTE COUNTY

CROPS	1892			1893		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	37,170	520,380	\$286,209	57,537	621,396	\$260,986
Spring wheat.....bu.	49	490	245	99		
Corn.....bu.	59,317	889,755	284,721	43,207	820,933	229,891
Oats.....bu.	30,749	737,976	184,494	30,667	858,676	171,735
Rye.....bu.	112	1,456	655	537	6,444	2,770
Barley.....bu.	8	96	40	9		
Buckwheat.....bu.	8	80	60	2	16	12
Irish potatoes.....bu.	484	19,360	14,520	407	16,280	11,396
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	43	3,440	3,784	78	5,850	5,850
Castor beans.....bu.	1,625	11,375	14,218	747	5,229	6,013
Sorghum.....bu.	274		6,632	360		6,930
Cotton.....lbs.	10	2,500	175			
Flax.....bu.	3,711	25,977	22,080	2,088	18,792	15,973
Tobacco.....lbs.	1	600	60	2		
Broom corn.....lbs.	65	26,000	845	50	20,000	600
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	1,992	2,988	11,952	1,052	1,578	7,890
Milo maize.....				8	32	112
Kaffir corn.....				41	164	574
Jerusalem corn.....				2	4	22
Timothy.....	12,237			10,508		
Clover.....	2,992			1,175		
Blue grass.....	1,668	* 9,706	48,530	1,369	† 8,915	53,490
Alfalfa.....tons	48			24		
Orchard grass.....	7			13		
Other tame grasses.....	506			780		
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	38,957	23,603	70,809	27,770	15,448	54,068
Totals.....	191,343		\$950,031	178,523		\$828,274

CROPS	1894			1895		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	51,004	1,077,186	\$430,874	62,895	691,845	\$415,107
Spring wheat.....bu.						
Corn.....bu.	48,303	1,449,090	478,199	50,718	1,267,950	316,987
Oats.....bu.	38,459	632,367	183,386	44,600	1,388,000	200,700
Rye.....bu.	306	5,202	2,080	479	4,790	1,916
Barley.....bu.	15	150	60	26	520	156
Buckwheat.....bu.	5	40	24			
Irish potatoes.....bu.	635	50,800	25,400	818	65,440	26,176
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	85	8,075	4,037	79	5,846	3,741
Castor beans.....bu.	804	8,040	8,040	255	2,040	2,040
Sorghum.....bu.	510		10,877			
" For syrup or sugar.....gals.				433	43,300	12,990
" For forage or grain.....				1,375		13,750
Cotton.....lbs.	1	200	12			
Flax.....bu.	3,158	22,106	22,106	6,349	50,792	35,554
Tobacco.....lbs.	14	8,400	840	1	700	70
Broom corn.....lbs.	97	29,100	1,018	91	43,680	875
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	1,043	1,043	5,215	1,962	4,905	24,525
Milo maize.....tons	3	75	33	7	28	84
Kaffir corn.....tons	242	4,840	2,420	624	2,496	7,488
Jerusalem corn.....				14	56	168
Timothy.....tons	13,499			11,865		
Clover.....tons	710			664		
Blue grass.....tons	1,710	\$ 7,923	47,538	2,074	7,076	30,073
Alfalfa.....tons	56			74		
Orchard grass.....tons	20			32		
Other tame grasses.....	2,854			579		
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	29,288	12,041	48,164	31,824	10,355	31,065
Totals.....	187,821		\$1,270,327	217,811		\$1,123,464

Wheat on hand March 1, 1893, 43,432 bushels; March 1, 1894, 72,826 bushels; March 1, 1895, 85,356 bushels.

Corn on hand March 1, 1893, 123,771 bushels; March 1, 1894, 57,325 bushels; March 1, 1895, 108,375 bushels.

\*Product of 1891. †Product of 1892. ‡Product of 1893.

§Product of 1894. ¶Product estimated in tons for 1895; in bushels for 1894.

TABLE SHOWING THE ACRES, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN LABETTE COUNTY.

CROPS	1896			1897		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	50,699	557,689	\$334,613	63,107	631,070	\$492,234
Spring wheat.....bu.	5					
Corn.....bu.	60,556	1,877,236	319,130	70,519	1,339,861	267,972
Oats.....bu.	38,078	685,404	75,394	30,194	754,850	120,776
Rye.....bu.	170	3,400	1,530	104	1,664	549
Buckwheat.....bu.	15					
Irish potatoes.....bu.	589	23,560	11,073	590	23,600	12,272
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	69	6,555	3,605	102	8,160	5,059
Castor beans.....bu.	347	2,429	1,943	516	2,580	2,451
Sorghum, for syrup or sugar.....gals.	163	13,040	3,912	214	12,412	3,723
" for forage or grain.....tons	1,603		8,015	1,315		7,451
Flax.....bu.	4,411	28,466	15,879	2,376	19,008	15,206
Broom corn.....lbs.	35	17,500	350	37	18,500	462
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	1,898	3,796	11,388	2,019	5,048	15,901
Milo maize.....tons	71	213	553	10	35	105
Kaffir corn.....tons	1,993	7,972	20,727	1,671	5,848	17,544
Jerusalem corn.....tons	7	21	54	46	161	483
Timothy.....	5,734			6,004		
Clover.....	335			1,065		
Blue grass.....	2,145			2,931		
Alfalfa.....tons	138	* 2,499	8,747	156	† 3,988	14,767
Orchard grass.....	21			46		
Other tame grasses.....	119			673		
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	28,616	18,221	44,553	27,738	15,987	41,566
Totals.....	197,817		\$862,469	211,425		\$1,018,525

CROPS	1898			1899		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	73,783	442,698	\$243,483	67,301	605,709	\$321,025
Corn.....bu.	65,800	1,316,000	315,840	75,670	1,891,750	454,020
Oats.....bu.	35,081	666,539	126,642	32,648	914,144	173,687
Rye.....bu.	227	1,816	726	135	945	453
Barley.....bu.	58	1,160	324			
Irish potatoes.....bu.	354	26,550	11,947	661	45,609	25,084
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	163	16,300	7,335	93	7,812	4,843
Castor beans.....bu.	675	6,075	5,771	711	4,266	3,839
Cotton.....lbs.	26	6,500	325			
Flax.....bu.	2,009	14,063	11,250	2,332	16,324	14,691
Hemp.....lbs.				20	8,000	400
Millet and Hungarian.....lbs.	56	28,000	700	93	55,800	1,813
Sorghum, for syrup or sugar.....tons	2,330	5,243	13,107	2,237	4,474	13,422
" for forage or grain.....gals.	294	17,640	5,292	385	27,720	8,870
Milo maize.....tons	66	264	6,264	1,806		9,030
Kaffir corn.....tons	1,277	5,108	15,324	90	90	180
Timothy.....	5,407			1,555	3,499	10,497
Clover.....	1,177			4,922		
Blue grass.....	2,150			1,366		
Alfalfa.....tons	170	† 4,009	15,033	2,337	§ 4,313	18,330
Orchard grass.....	36			86		
Other tame grasses.....	653			740		
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	26,811	14,884	40,931	23,082	19,522	58,566
Totals.....	219,647		\$821,090	218,211		\$1,118,755

Wheat on hand March 1, 1896, 69,231 bushels; March 1, 1897, 17,758 bushels; March 1, 1898, 36,364 bushels; March 1, 1899, 33,729 bushels.

Corn on hand March 1, 1896, 289,308 bushels; March 1, 1897, 322,117 bushels; March 1, 1898, 334,015 bushels; March 1, 1899, 212,744 bushels.

\*Product of 1895. †Product of 1896. ‡Product of 1897. §Product of 1898.

TABLE SHOWING THE ACRES, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN LABETTE COUNTY

CROPS	1900			1901		
	Acres	Product	Value	Acres	Product	Value
Winter wheat.....bu.	42,076	673,216	\$410,661			
Corn.....bu.	82,698	2,398,242	671,507			
Oats.....bu.	45,773	1,464,736	292,947			
Rye.....bu.	34	510	255			
Barley.....bu.						
Buckwheat.....bu.	1	10	7			
Irish potatoes.....bu.	513	46,170	24,008			
Sweet potatoes.....bu.	100	11,800	6,844			
Castor beans.....bu.	644	5,152	5,122			
Cotton.....lbs.						
Flax.....bu.	1,946	19,460	25,298			
Hemp.....lbs.						
Tobacco.....lbs.						
Broom corn.....lbs.	392	313,600	1,254			
Millet and Hungarian.....tons	2,870	7,175	21,525			
Sorghum, for syrup or sugar.....gals.	406	40,600	13,604			
"      for forage or grain.....tons	2,502		17,514			
Milo maize.....tons	7	28	36			
Kaffir corn.....tons	2,929	11,716	23,432			
Jerusalem corn.....tons						
Timothy.....	5,741					
Clover.....	1,193					
Blue grass.....	2,697	* 3,559	16,905			
Alfalfa.....tons	102					
Orchard grass.....	5					
Other tame grasses.....	607					
Prairie grass, fenced.....tons	37,867	19,571	68,498			
Totals.....	231,103		\$1,599,670			

Wheat on hand March 1, 1900, 30,856 bushels.

Corn on hand March 1, 1900, 240,332 bushels.

\*Product of 1899.

## FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

Almost from the commencement of our history, the farmers have in one form or another been more or less effectively organized for the promotion of agriculture, and the advancement of their interests.

## FARMERS' CLUBS.

The first organization of this kind of which I have any knowledge was the Farmers' Club, of Oswego township, which was organized in October, 1870. F. Swanwick was elected president, and J. P. Jones secretary.

The Richland Township Farmers' Club

4

was organized April 6, 1872, although steps toward the organization of a club seem to have been taken a year previous. S. K. Thomas was chairman and J. N. Watson secretary of the temporary organization, and T. J. Calvin and J. N. Watson were the permanent president and secretary.

In January, 1881, the Hackberry Club was organized, with D. B. Crouse as president.

It is not improbable that clubs were organized at other points, of which I have received no information.

## FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

On May 20, 1882, a Farmers' Alliance was

organized at Chetopa, with Isaac Butterworth president and A. E. Bartlett secretary. I know of no other alliance being organized prior to the general move some years later.

#### FARMERS' UNION.

The only account I have of this organization is the following announcement for a 4th of July celebration, made by them June 14, 1873:

"There will be a basket picnic and meeting of the Farmers' Union of the county at Hart's Mill, two and one-half miles northwest of Labette City, on the Labette River; not only for the purpose of celebrating our nation's anniversary, but for the purpose of declaring our independence and emancipation from the thrall-dom of monopolies and corporations that now, through their moneyed influence, oppress the laboring classes (the bone and sinew of the nation) to an extent more alarming than the tyranny our forefathers emancipated themselves from.

J. F. PIPER,  
RICHARD BAKER,  
W. HOUCK,  
*Committee."*

#### GRANGE.

The farmers' organization known as "The Grange," or "Patrons of Husbandry," was introduced into this county in the summer of 1873. I do not know where the first grange in the county was organized, but John Nelson, of Neosho township, was county organizer, and on September 11, 1873, he organized the Pleasant Valley Grange, in District No. 3.

On October 15, 1873, Richland Grange was organized, at Watson's school-house, with D. J. Doolen master, J. C. McKnight overseer, and John N. Watson secretary.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION.—On December

19, 1873, the various granges of the county met at Labette to form a council. J. F. Hill was chosen chairman, and C. W. Olmstead secretary. At this meeting a constitution which did not allow women to vote was adopted, but it was unsatisfactory to the local organizations. On December 27th an adjourned meeting was held, in which 70 delegates were present, representing 20 granges. Women, who had been excluded from the former convention, were admitted to this. The county organization was now completed, and the following officers were elected: J. J. Woods, master; J. F. Hill, overseer; John Richardson, treasurer; D. C. Thurston, secretary; S. W. Collins, business agent; and the following executive committee: J. T. Lampson, S. M. Canaday, and T. A. Fellows. The first meeting after its organization was held February 24, 1874. At this meeting the secretaryship was changed, and given to I. W. Patrick; and a grange store was authorized to be started as soon as possible. H. C. Cook was appointed county organizer.

STORE.—In 1874 a grange store was opened at Labette, with an authorized capital stock of \$4,000. S. W. Collins, the business agent of the council, was salesman. In June, 1875, J. T. Lampson was appointed agent of the grange store in the place of Samuel Collins. From a financial standpoint the store never proved a success, and quite an amount of money was sunk in the enterprise.

CONDEMNATORY ACTION.—On March 20, 1875, at a meeting of the county council, it was, on motion of J. C. Murphy, "*Resolved*, That the county council condemn the late action of the county commissioners in regard to their refusal to accept aid to the destitute of Labette county." At the same time the following resolutions were adopted:

"*Resolved*, By the Labette County Council of Patrons of Husbandry in its regular session, that we, as a body, asking boot from no one, and in sympathy with our unfortunate yeomanry of this State, do bitterly denounce and condemn the late action of the Senate of the State of Kansas in regard to relief to the destitute of this State, as miserly, misanthropic in its nature, wrong and injurious to its loyal destitute, and a shame and a disgrace to the fair name of grateful Kansas.

"*Resolved*, That we will heartily endorse any action of the Governor of this State, by way of appropriating a portion of the surplus accumulated funds of the treasury of this State, to render aid, relief and assistance to those requiring the same from the destitution that visited the State last season.

"*Resolved*, That we will not support for office anyone who would not be willing that the next legislature legalize the same."

These organizations were maintained in the county but two or three years, or at least there was no active work done after that, although there may have been a few local organizations kept up somewhat longer.

EXAMINING COUNTY OFFICES.—In July, 1874, the county council of Patrons of Husbandry appointed a committee of five, consisting of Col. J. J. Woods chairman, John F. Hill, secretary, S. M. Canaday, Thomas Bates, and J. Merwin, to make a thorough examination of the county offices "for the purpose of ascertaining where the money goes." The committee spent some time in the court-house, and at the end of their investigation made an exhaustive report, filling over five columns of newspaper. A number of recommendations were submitted by the committee, pointing out defects in the law which should be remedied and of administration which should be cor-

rected. It is not improbable that good resulted from this examination, if in nothing else than in making a large proportion of the people better acquainted with the way their business was conducted.

### FAIR ASSOCIATIONS.

#### LABETTE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL SOCIETY.

On January 31 1868, a number of the citizens of the county formed an organization for the purpose of locating fair grounds on the southwest quarter of section 16, township 33, range 21, and N. L. Hibbard, W. S. Newlton, C. H. Bent, Isaac Butterworth and others filed a charter in the office of the Secretary of State on February 13th for the incorporation of the Labette County Agricultural and Mechanical Society. W. S. Newlton was elected president and W. P. Bishop secretary. The second issue of the *Neosho Valley Eagle* contains a notice that the books of the society are open for subscription to its capital stock. This organization never succeeded in starting a fair, or doing anything that looked practically to that end.

#### LABETTE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In the latter part of June, 1870, a call was made through the *Oswego Register* for those interested in the organization of a fair to meet at the court-house on July 2d for the purpose of taking steps to secure such result. On that day there was quite a gathering of the citizens of the county, who effected a temporary organization by electing D. B. Crouse chairman and Nelson Case secretary. The establishment of a fair was discussed, and it was finally agreed

to organize the Labette County Agricultural and Horticultural Society. A board of directors representing all parts of the county was selected, and the following officers chosen: D. B. Crouse, president; Jonas Clark, vice-president; C. H. Lewis, secretary; William Steele, treasurer. Under this management a fair was held on the south bank of the Neosho River, on the northwest quarter of section 15, in Oswego. The fair was a success. Annual fairs were thereafter held under the auspices of this society up to and including 1883. Most of these were successful both in the matter of securing a good display of the products of the county and in financial management. In 1873 a new charter was obtained, and the association put on a firmer basis. Fair grounds were purchased in the northeast part of Oswego city, and a commencement made toward improving and fitting them up for the holding of fairs. As indicating what the success of some of the first fairs were, I may mention that in 1873 the receipts were \$2,135.15, and the disbursements \$1,957.61; in 1874 the receipts were \$2,279.84, and disbursements \$2,386.09. The following two years the receipts were not enough to pay expenses and premiums, and a small indebtedness was thereby created. The next year or two was more successful. In 1880 a large amphitheater was erected, whereby an indebtedness was created, to secure which a mortgage on the company's grounds was executed; and this finally was foreclosed, and the property sold thereunder. In 1883 the association virtually disbanded, and made no other attempts at holding a fair. The following is a list of the presidents and secretaries of this association after the first fair: Presidents—1871, D. B. Crouse; 1872, Isaac Butterworth; 1873, C. M. Monroe; 1874-75, J. J. Woods; 1876, F. A. Bettis; 1877-78, R. W. Wright; 1879, J. P.

Updegraff; 1880, R. W. Wright; 1881, C. O. Perkins; 1882-83, C. Montague. Secretaries—1871, C. H. Lewis; 1872-74, C. B. Woodford; 1875-77, C. A. Wilkin; 1878, C. B. Woodford; 1879-83, C. A. Wilkin.

#### NEOSHO VALLEY STOCK ASSOCIATION.

In the summer of 1884, it having become apparent that the Agricultural and Horticultural Society was not going to hold a fair that season, a new organization under the name of the Neosho Valley Stock Association was formed, of which D. B. Crouse was president, Isaac Butterworth, vice-president, and C. B. Woodford, secretary. Under its auspices a fair was held on the fair grounds in Oswego, commencing the last of September. No premiums were paid, but diplomas were given according to merit. The treasurer's report at the close of the fair shows the total receipts to be \$164.40, and expenses \$156.65. In 1885 the officers were: J. F. Hill, president; D. Doyle, vice-president; C. B. Woodford, secretary; and J. W. Marley, treasurer. Quite a successful fair was held, commencing September 8th.

#### LABETTE COUNTY HORTICULTURAL AND AGRICULTURAL FAIR ASSOCIATION.

No attempt was made at holding a fair at Oswego from 1885 to 1891. During the summer of 1891 a number of the citizens organized the Labette County Horticultural and Agricultural Fair Association, and elected R. W. Wright, president; J. D. H. Reed, secretary; J. G. Bradley, treasurer and superintendent. A fair was held September 14th to 16th. The exhibits and attendance were encouraging. The receipts were large enough to pay all expenses, which amounted to \$260.



In 1892 the association held its second fair, from September 29th to October 1st. The officers this year were: J. B. Montgomery, president; J. D. H. Reed, secretary; George Pfaff, treasurer; and J. G. Bradley, superintendent. The receipts were \$600, and all premiums and obligations were paid in full.

About the same course has been pursued each year since 1892. For two or three years past, instead of going to the fair grounds, a street fair in the city of Oswego was held yearly, which was quite as interesting and brought out as good a display of the products of the county as a regularly conducted agricultural fair. Street fairs have also been held in Che-topa and Parsons.

#### LABETTE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL ASSOCIATION.

In the summer of 1872 a number of the citizens of the vicinity of the town of Labette organized the Labette County Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanical Association, for the purpose of holding a fair at that point. F. C. Burnette was elected president and Wm. Houck secretary. A fair commencing the 8th of October of that year was held, with a fair degree of success. The following officers were elected for 1873: President, S. W. Collins; vice-president, J. F. Piper, secretary, William Houck; treasurer, Harvey I. Cox. It was decided to hold a fair in the fore part of October, but no fair seems to have been held; and this, apparently, was the last of this association.

#### PARSONS FAIR AND DRIVING PARK ASSOCIATION.

Early in 1882 steps were taken by some of the citizens of Parsons to form an organization for the purpose of holding a fair at that

place. The Parsons Fair and Driving Park Association was formed, with a board of directors composed of its leading business men, of which G. W. Gabriel was president and J. R. Brown secretary. Good grounds were secured and improved, and from 1882 to 1886, inclusive, successful fairs were held. After that no fair was held till 1892, when another effort was made, with a good result.

#### STOCK ASSOCIATION.

In August, 1884, the Short-Horn Breeders' Association was organized, with the following officers: Dr. B. R. Van Meter, president; Chas. W. Stoddard, vice-president; M. E. Williams, secretary; J. C. Christian, treasurer.

#### LABETTE COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Those engaged in horticulture and fruit-growing were only a little behind those interested in agriculture and stock-raising, in taking steps to unite their interests for mutual improvement in growing and disposing of their products. The early records of the Labette County Horticultural Society have been lost, and I am not able to give the date of its organization; but it was sometime prior to 1877. Nearly all of the fruit-growers in the vicinity of Oswego and a number in other parts of the county have been members and active workers of this society. Among those who have been most prominent as workers in the society I mention the following: H. S. Coley, J. L. Williams, N. Sanford, J. A. Gates, John F. Hill, J. B. Draper, D. Doyle, Isaac Butterworth, W. S. Newlon, G. A. Stover, Wilf. Cooper, Henry Tibbitts, George Pfaff. I do not wish to be understood as giving in this list the names of all of those who have been prominent workers

in this society, but only such as now occur to me. Had I the records of the society the list might be very much enlarged. During the summer the society frequently holds picnics, at which all phases of the question of fruit-growing are fully and carefully discussed, and much of the success of the fruit-growing business may be fairly attributed to the work of this society.

## OTHER COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS.

### COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

There is no existing record of the organization of this society. It was probably organized early in 1869. The first minutes I have been able to find of its meetings are those for a semi-annual meeting held at Oswego on November 7, 1870; the society was then called the Osage and Southern Kansas Medical Association. C. M. Gilkey was president and Robert Steele secretary. At this meeting it was voted to change the name to the Labette County Medical Association; W. S. Newlon was elected president; George Lisle, vice-president; Robert Steele, secretary; and J. W. Wier, treasurer. A uniform schedule of fees was adopted.

On June 8, 1871, a meeting of the society was held, at which W. S. Newlon was president and D. D. McGrath, secretary.

On June 16, 1875, after a lapse of two or three years, a meeting was held, and the association revived. George Lisle was elected president; W. S. Newlon, vice-president, C. Humble, secretary, and B. R. Van Meter, treasurer.

On May 18, 1885, the society again organized, and elected J. J. Kackley president, and A. O. Garnett, secretary.

The society now maintains an organization and holds regular meetings.

### BAR ASSOCIATION.

On September 15, 1881, the members of the Indiana met at Labette City and organized a county bar association, with the following officers: H. G. Webb, president; Nelson Case and George S. King, vice-presidents; J. H. Morrison, secretary, J. A. Gates, treasurer. This association was never very active, and after a brief existence it was abandoned, since which time no effort has been made to organize or maintain an association.

### HOOSIER ASSOCIATION.

On June 19, 1886, the former residents of Indiana met at Labette City and organized a Hoosier Association. Wilf. Cooper was elected president and W. W. Cook, secretary. This association has held several annual meetings since then, and maintains a feeling of friendship and pride among the old "Indians."

### OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Several attempts have been made to secure a permanent organization of the old settlers in the county. As early as April 16, 1884, there was a preliminary meeting held at the court-house in Oswego, at which a committee was appointed to report a plan for enrollment at an adjourned meeting to be held thereafter. D. B. Crouse was chosen chairman and C. B. Woodford secretary. One or two other meetings were held the following month, and a form of constitution was adopted. However, this organization never did anything more than to have these preliminary meetings. In 1888 another effort was made to secure an organization, and a meeting of the old settlers was called through the *Independent*, to be held on

the 22d of February of that year. A committee was appointed at this meeting to call a public meeting and arrange for a large attendance of the old settlers throughout the county. This committee called such meeting to be held at the fair grounds in Oswego on May 10, 1888. An organization was formed at this time, and since then some two or three other meetings have been held; but the general interest has not yet been secured which it is to be hoped will be shown by those who have done so much to make the county what it is.

#### THE LABETTE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

In its issue of July 6, 1878, the *Oswego Independent* contained a notice of about a half-dozen lines stating that a meeting of the citizens of the county would be held at the courthouse on Tuesday evening following, for the purpose of taking steps to organize a historical society. It was understood that this notice was inserted by J. S. Waters, who was then doing editorial work on the *Independent*. On July 9, 1878, a few parties met at the courthouse, pursuant to said notice. Alexander Duncan, of Canada township, was made temporary chairman, and J. S. Waters, temporary secretary. The matter of a historical society was talked of, and before the adjournment of the meeting a committee, consisting of Nelson Case, W. A. Starr and R. M. Donley, was appointed to prepare a plan for organization to be submitted in one week from that time. On Tuesday evening, July 16, the meeting met as per adjournment. The committee appointed to prepare the plan reported through Nelson Case, its chairman, recommending the formation of a society on a very simple basis, "keeping in view sooner or later the incorporation of a society," and submitting the draft of a con-

stitution. The report of the committee was adopted, and the following officers elected: President, Nelson Case; vice-president, George Lisle; secretary, J. S. Waters; corresponding secretary, M. W. Reynolds; treasurer, C. M. Monroe; with vice-presidents from each of the townships. There has never been any change in the presidency since its organization. In 1879 W. A. Starr was elected secretary in place of Mr. Waters, who moved away; this position he continued to hold until his death. On November 21, 1881, the society became incorporated by filing its charter in the office of the Secretary of State. Since Mr. Starr's death E. B. Baldwin and J. R. Hill have filled the office of secretary; H. C. Cook and M. E. Williams have held the office of treasurer.

Nearly complete files of many of the county papers have been preserved, and other objects of interest have been secured, but for several years the society has held no meetings and has been practically disorganized.

#### COUNTY CENTENNIAL BOARD.

On Saturday, September 19, 1875, a meeting was held at Oswego, which was attended by citizens from various parts of the county, for the purpose of organizing a board auxiliary to the State board to secure a proper representation at the Centennial Exposition. The constitution and by-laws recommended by the State board were adopted, and a board of managers elected, consisting of the following individuals: W. S. Newlon, P. T. Rhodes, F. B. McGill, Henry Tibbitts, J. F. Hill, J. J. Woods, A. Gebert, H. C. Cook, and J. M. Cavaness. A quorum of the board being present, a meeting was held, and the permanent officers of the board chosen, with the following result: President, J. M. Cavaness; vice-president, F. B.

McGill; secretary, J. F. Hill; treasurer, J. J. Woods. The board of officers constituted the executive committee. The committees whose duty it was to make collections of the various articles requested by the State board were all chosen.

#### COLUMBIAN CLUB.

On August 26, 1892, a meeting of the ladies of the county was held at the parlors of the Oswego House, for the purpose of seeing the county properly represented at the Columbian Exposition. The following permanent officers were elected: Mrs. M. M. Woodruff, president; Mrs. Mary E. Perkins, vice-president; Mrs. Alice Greene, secretary; Mrs. Elizabeth Elliott, treasurer. Mrs. Woodruff having declined to serve, Mrs. Lyda A. Baldwin was elected president in her place.

#### G. A. R.

Pea Ridge Post, No. 118, is located at Chetopa, and was organized August 21, 1882. Post commanders: Capt. Thomas O'Hare, Col. J. B. Cook, James F. Sterling, L. M. Bedell, S. T. Herman, W. O. Breckenridge, Robert Orme, William Stevens, H. J. Schock, W. H. Hooper, J. W. Bowles, and George Rodgers. Most of the commanders have served more than one term. Under the auspices of this post for eight years have been held annual soldiers' reunions. The first was held October 18-21, 1893.

Antietam Post, No. 64, is located at Parsons, and was organized June 2, 1882; it has been incorporated under the laws of Kansas. There are 400 names on its roll. The city of Parsons conveyed to the post, for a nominal consideration, a tract in Oakwood Cemetery in which all old soldiers are buried free of expense

to their friends, if they so desire; eighty-four old soldiers have already been buried in these grounds. Two eight-inch Columbiads, weighing 9,240 pounds each, a gift of the War Department, mounted on cut-stone supports with concrete foundations, point over the graves of those buried there. These grounds are substantially and beautifully enclosed with cut sandstone coping and cap stones, and the graves are marked with Government headstones. Nearly \$5,000 have been expended on this burying place. Post Commanders: W. H. Morris, Luther Gilmore, H. L. Partridge, T. D. Ganer, W. P. Scholl, W. H. Porter, R. D. Talbot, J. D. Scott, A. M. Sourbeer, O. E. Peters, W. C. King, George W. Gould, Mills Voris, R. E. Hollaway, W. C. Weaver, Augustus Martin, and John H. Lyles. In 1895 was held the first reunion at Parsons, under the impulse given by this post. These reunions have been held annually since, under the direction of a committee and officers elected by those who participate therein.

Mound Valley Post, No. 139, was organized November 9, 1882. There are 110 names on its roll of old soldiers who have been members of this post. Only about 17 are in good standing; five have died, and the others have withdrawn by suspension or removal. The following have been commanders: Josephus Moore, W. W. Harper, A. J. Ginger, L. C. Wilmoth, Ivy Prescott, L. E. Hanson, N. W. Wallis, Ivy Prescott, T. J. Maudlin, L. E. Hanson, Ivy Prescott, McHenry Smith, J. W. Fee, L. E. Hanson, and C. G. Titsworth.

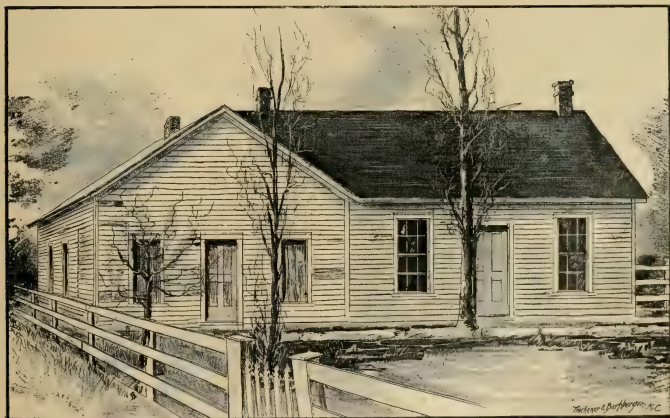
Oswego Post, No. 150, was organized January 10, 1883, and has had the following commanders: John F. Hill, D. H. David, E. B. Baldwin, George P. Hall, J. C. Patterson, H. C. Cook, W. L. Burch, R. W. Wright, Otis Whitney, B. F. Richards, G. W. Hendricks,

Colin Hodge, N. Sanford, H. E. Fuller, J. Garten, and G. W. Mathews. A soldiers' reunion was held in Oswego in the fall of 1900, under the patronage of this post.

Topping Post, No. 268, is located at Altamont, and was organized September 8, 1883. Commanders: Daniel Reid, Ezra Bonebrake, J. C. Murphy, J. J. Miles, A. H. Waite, R. A. Davis, J. F. Huffman, T. J. Hun, and T. H. Murray. It has a membership of 22, and has lost three by death.

Knoxville Post, No. 458, was organized in the Hawkins schoolhouse near Trenton, May 18, 1883, and was numbered 167. Col. E. B. Baldwin was the first commander. Its charter

members embraced most of the old soldiers and in the southwestern portion of the county, and they were among the most substantial and prominent citizens. After Edna was started, the post was removed to that town, and a reorganization was effected. A new charter, No. 458, was issued to it, dated February 9, 1889. The building in which the post held its meetings was burned in February, 1890, and many of its effects, including its charter, were consumed. A full list of post commanders has not been secured, but among the incumbents of that office have been Col. E. B. Baldwin S. W. McMahan, J. M. Edmonson, and W. J. Raymond.



FIRST COURT-HOUSE; ERECTED 1868.

ADDITION TO COURT-HOUSE; ERECTED 1870.

THE FENCE AND TREES WHICH APPEAR HERE WERE NOT AROUND THIS BUILDING WHEN IT WAS ERECTED.



## CRIMINAL MATTERS

---

On August 6, 1868, Charles Van Alstine killed J. C. Wheeler, near a saloon in Oswego, in which they had been drinking. Van Alstine was tried and convicted of murder, and sent to the penitentiary. This was the first murder trial in the county.

In the latter part of 1868 a half-breed Indian was intoxicated and making a disturbance on the streets of Chetopa. He was arrested by an officer, who asked him where he got his whisky; he told the officer if he would go with him he would show him. He went to a shanty on the outskirts of town, opened a door, and stooping down to his saddle-bags took therefrom a revolver, saying, "That is where I got my whisky," and fired, the ball striking the officer on the forehead, but glancing instead of penetrating the skull. The Indian was again arrested, and taken before the justice. A somewhat rough character called Bob Broadus told him he would be killed, and, if he had an opportunity, to run. The Indian soon started off, and was at once fired upon by a number of parties and killed.

In 1870 John D. Coulter was postmaster at Oswego, and also agent of all the express companies that did business at that place. In the latter part of November of that year, without giving notice of his intention so to do, he left town, and was never seen here thereafter. He proved to be a defaulter to the Government and also the express companies in the sum of several hundred dollars.

Anthony Amend and John Pierce, living in Neosho township, had a difficulty over a child. Pierce shot and killed Amend, and then attempted to hide in the woods and tall grass. The grass was set on fire, and to escape, Pierce jumped into the Neosha and swam across. He was caught and taken to Jacksonville, where a vigilance committee hung him. This hanging took place in Neosho county. Several parties were arrested as being connected with it, but no one was ever convicted.

On October 3, 1874, on the fair grounds at Oswego, John Bagby stabbed William Hogsett and Charles H. Westfall, both of whom were special police. Hogsett soon died, while Westfall, after a protracted confinement, recovered. Bagby was sent to the penitentiary.

On November 2, 1870, Erastus E. and Liston P. Hopkins killed their brother-in-law, John M. May, by beating and wounding him with poles and clubs. In June, 1871, they were tried for this offense. The State was represented by Judge D. P. Lowe, M. V. Voss, and Jesse C. Harper, together with the county attorney. The defense was principally conducted by M. V. B. Bennett and J. D. Gamble. The defendants were convicted of murder in the second degree, after a protracted trial. A notable incident of this trial was in reference to the court driving a witness named Chas. H. Butts from the witness stand during the giving of his testimony. It appears by the testimony of Butts that he was a detective,



and had been placed in the jail with the Hopkins brothers under the pretense of being guilty of some kind of a crime, for the real purpose of getting admissions from them to be of use on the trial. On these facts appearing, the presiding judge said that such a person was unworthy of credit, and should not be allowed to give testimony in his court; he was directed to leave the stand, which he did.

On February 24, 1871, John Clark was killed at Chetopa by Frank Huber. Huber was tried, and convicted of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to be hung on September 1st; on August 31st a respite was granted until September 30th. Huber had been taken to Fort Scott after his trial for more safe confinement until the time of his execution. The last of August he was brought from Fort Scott to Oswego, where a gallows had been erected in front of the old jail, and where on the morrow he was to be hung. After the respite arrived, and before the time of his execution, as then fixed, the Supreme Court granted him a new trial because of a defect in the form of the verdict. Preferring not to undergo the excitement of another trial, Huber succeeded in removing some of the stones and other rubbish that separated him from the outside world, and on the night of November 23, 1871, made his escape from the county jail, since which time he has never been heard of at this place. His case was the nearest we have ever been to having a legal execution in this county.

On August 14, 1872, B. W. Harwood had a difficulty with the Blye brothers, and was very badly beaten and bruised by them. Later in the day he went to their home and fired into a crowd of people that were there assembled, slightly wounding two persons. On the 15th he was arrested, and gave bond for his appearance at trial. On the morning of August 16th

he was found on his premises, riddled with bullets. Three of the Blye brothers and a number of neighbors were arrested and tried for the murder. While people generally had no doubt about their guilt, the State failed to produce sufficient evidence to convict, and the defendants were all acquitted.

On May 27, 1875, R. B. Myers absconded. It appeared from examination made that for months he had been embezzling from the Adams Express Company, for whom he was agent. A statement was made by the general manager to the effect that as far back as December previous he had been detected in defalcation. In the fall of 1879 he was brought back from the west, where he was found, on requisition, and on examination was bound over to court. In proceedings pending the trial, it was developed that the company was defectively organized, its charter being imperfect; and there being no law punishing embezzlement by an agent of a joint-stock company, Myers was permitted to go at liberty.

On April 1, 1878, while Milton Engler and Samuel Clevinger were going to their homes in Cherokee county from Chetopa in a state of intoxication, they got into a quarrel; the former stabbed the latter with a knife, from the effects of which he soon died.

On Sunday morning, August 25, 1878 R. H. Clift, who was marshal of Chetopa, was shot and killed near town by John Richmond, a horse thief whom he was attempting to arrest. Richmond had passed through town a few days before with a stolen mule in his possession and was now returning to Missouri. Word having come that he was guilty of stealing the mule, parties in town who had seen him pass through informed the marshal of the circumstances, and he immediately started in pursuit. He soon overtook Richmond and ordered him to

stop, telling him that he was under arrest. Richmond replied that he would return with him, but at once drew a revolver and shot Clift through the neck; he died that night. On the Wednesday following the Sunday on which Clift was shot, Richmond, having reached his home in Missouri near the village of White Hall, in Laurence county, was there arrested for stealing the mule at a camp meeting. The next morning, August 29th, he was being taken to Mount Vernon, when Bently came up and informed the officers that Richmond was guilty of the murder of Clift. This was the first that the shooting of Clift was known at the home of Richmond. Richmond was taken to Mount Vernon, where he was held until Bently could get a requisition, and as soon as the same could be obtained Bently and United States Deputy Marshal Graham secured his delivery to them, and at once started with him for this county. Instead of taking the train at Carthage to Oswego, they decided to go the route through the Indian Territory, transferring to the M., K. & T. Ry. at Vinita. They arrived at Chetopa on the midnight train Thursday night, September 5th. Masked men appeared in the train as soon as it stopped at Chetopa, and compelled the officers to take Richmond out; they took him out and proceeded to get into a 'bus. The mob surrounded the 'bus and train, took Richmond from the officers, marched him a mile southwest of town, and strung him up to an old bridge, where he was left hanging until the next afternoon. The cold blooded murder of Richmond was without excuse. His crime was a terrible one, but there would have been no difficulty in convicting and punishing him for it. No one except the participants know who were the criminals engaged in the second murder, and no effort was made to apprehend or punish them.

One of the most brutal murders ever committed took place in Canada township, about the last of October, 1878. Theodore Munsterman and William Hunt some time previous thereto had had difficulty over the entry of a claim. On the day of the murder Hunt and his wife had been to Oswego, and during their absence Munsterman had been seen around the premises. On their way home from Oswego, Hunt overtook Munsterman going in the direction of their home. He got in and rode with them. It was late in the evening when they arrived home. Hunt and Munsterman talked over their previous difficulty, and agreed to bury all differences. Munsterman was making his home with his sister several miles away, and it was suggested that he stay all night with Hunt. They had but one bed and they made a pallet for him upon the floor in the same room in which they slept. During the night Mrs. Hunt awoke and found Munsterman at their bedside bending over her; she asked him what he wanted; he said he wanted to kiss her. Later in the night Munsterman got up and shot both Mr. and Mrs. Hunt in the head. Hunt was evidently killed at once. Probably Mrs. Hunt made some move, and to finish the job Munsterman took a hatchet and broke in her skull. He left them both in bed where they had slept, went out, locked the door, and took Hunt's team and moved off. He was seen the next day with the team, which he said he had borrowed and was going to the Territory for coal. It turned out that he took the team and hitched it in a ravine, and himself went to Chetopa. That evening one of the neighbor boys went to the house, but could not get in. He heard a groaning inside, and went and told his mother. Several of the neighbors were aroused and came to the house and broke open the door. They found Hunt dead, and

Mrs. Hunt unable to speak and nearly dead. Munsterman was found, and at once arrested on suspicion that he had committed the murder. His account of having the team and of his whereabouts was entirely unsatisfactory, and he was placed in the county jail. By the time of the next term of court, when the case came up on trial, Mrs. Hunt had so far recovered as to be able to talk. She came upon the witness stand and identified Munsterman as the murderer, giving the story of the transaction substantially as here recorded. Munsterman was convicted of murder in the first degree. He died in the penitentiary, November 25, 1888.

On November 3, 1879, an obstruction in the shape of a hand-car, with old irons and other material, was placed on the Frisco Ry., near Big Hill station. A detective was employed to ascertain the guilty parties, and thereafter Albert C. Tolliver was arrested for the offense. Tolliver made confession, and implicated James Henry Barnes, Sr., and his son in the crime. The old man Barnes was not found, but the younger Barnes was tried, and, by what is believed to be the most successfully planned and carried out conspiracy for perjury ever attempted in this court, participated in by a large number of his friends and neighbors, was acquitted.

On December 2, 1879, Quincy Harris was arrested for operating an illicit distillery on Hackberry Creek, and John and Josiah Johnson for assisting by furnishing corn. Harris was taken in charge by the U. S. marshal.

On July 10, 1880, Daniel Tucker killed a colored man named William Dudley, near Mound Valley. Tucker had been lying around Chetopa for several days, and hired Dudley to take him to Neodesha with his team, on the pretense that he desired to bring back a load of

goods. On Sunday, July 11th, parties passing west of Mound Valley saw where some one had encamped the night before, and noticed clots of blood and other evidences of a hard struggle. Physicians were called, and after examination pronounced the blood and brains found to be those of a human being. That evening some one found the body of a colored man in a ravine some three miles away, and parties immediately started out to find the murderer. They soon found a wagon with a man and woman in it and the team was identified as the one which had encamped the night before where the body was found. The man was arrested and proved to be Tucker, the murderer of the colored man, William Dudley. He was convicted of murder in the first degree.

On March 4, 1881, on a south-bound passenger train on the M. K. & T. Ry., just as it was leaving Chetopa, James Hayden, who was from Lebanon, Ky., and a passenger on the train, commenced firing his revolver promiscuously among the passengers. He shot and killed William Lewis, of McAlister, I. T., and wounded two others. He was at once arrested and taken from the train and lodged in jail. Soon thereafter, it being supposed that he was insane, an inquisition was held, in which it was determined that he was of unsound mind. His friends came from Kentucky and took him home. The shooting was caused by his supposing that he was in danger of his life from the Indians, as he was nearing the Indian Territory.

On September 27, 1884, John Douglas killed Harry Fox, at his home in Canada township. Douglas escaped and went to Ohio, from whence he was brought back a year after, and on trial was convicted.

At the May, 1885, term of the district court, Frank P. Myres was tried and convicted

of stealing a span of mules. On his application he was granted a new trial. On the night of July 7, 1885, Winfield Scott Crouse, who was a prisoner in the county jail charged with murder, J. J. Thompson, with liquor selling, and a colored man, Mat Lingo, with assault and battery, broke jail and compelled Myres to go with them. The latter, however, did not leave town, but next morning returned and gave himself up. On the night of July 26th Myres with others broke jail again, but he was soon found, at Vinita, and was returned to jail on the 28th. On the night of August 4th Myres was taken from jail. To secure his escape from jail, five locks had to be broken or unlocked. The next morning the locks were all found fastened and in good order. How the doors were opened is an unsolved mystery. On August 6th Myres's body was found in the Neosho River, just above the Oswego dam.

During Myres's imprisonment Jacob McLaughlin and Wash Berkaw were part of the time confined in jail with him on the charge of selling liquor. It is supposed that they feared testimony which Myres might give if called as a witness on their trial, and that they, after their release on bail, secured Myres and took him from the jail on the 4th of August. On April 14, 1886, McLaughlin and Berkaw were arrested for the murder of Myres. On their examination Frank and George Davis, who were also confined in the jail at the time when Myres was taken therefrom, testified that McLaughlin, with the assistance of Berkaw, took Myres from the jail. The defendants were both held to answer the charge of murder. On the trial of McLaughlin and Berkaw on the charge of murder in the district court, the Davis boys gave testimony directly contrary to what they had testified on the prelimi-

nary examination, and said that what they had testified to before was false. It was developed on the trial that after the preliminary examination had been had, the Davis boys went to the office of E. C. Ward in Parsons, who was attorney for McLaughlin and Berkaw, where it was arranged between them that in the event of their giving testimony of the character which they did give upon the final trial, they should receive a certain sum of money. The money was deposited in bank, subject to their order upon the final acquittal of the defendants. The defendants were acquitted on the trial, although probably no one had any doubt of their real guilt.

At the close of the trial the court appointed a committee to investigate the conduct of E. C. Ward in connection with this transaction. The committee in the report found that he had been guilty of bribery, and recommended that he be disbarred. Charges were preferred against him, and change of venue was had upon his application to the district court of Neosho county, where he was tried and found guilty, and a judgment of disbarment was entered.

On the night of February 21, 1885, Marcus A. Justice and Mayfield Carr, two colored men who had had some jealous feeling in reference to a woman, were in company near the M. K. & T. depot at Oswego. The next morning Carr was found dead in the cut of the Frisco Ry. between the M. K. & T. and the brick mill. Justice was charged with the murder, and on trial had on May 27, 1885, was convicted of murder in the first degree.

On November 16, 1885, George W. Gregson shot and killed W. A. Collins, in the Grand Central Hotel at Parsons. On February 19, 1886, he was convicted of murder in the first degree.

In September, 1886, Wilf. Cooper got upon a freight train at Parsons to ride to his home at Labette City. There were some three or four other parties in the car, who proved to be tramps. Before arriving at Labette City they attacked Cooper and threw him out of the car. He recovered himself sufficiently to get to Labette City and telegraph to Oswego for the arrest of the parties, who were tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary.

On June 26, 1888, the marshal at Chetopa had a warrant for the arrest of a colored man who was supposed to be engaged in the illegal sale of liquor, and who had made his boast that no officer could arrest him. The marshal called a man to his aid, and started to serve the warrant. Another colored man had allied himself with the one they were seeking to arrest, and, seeing one of the officers coming, one of them secreted himself behind the building, and the other from across the street leveled his gun at the officer. Both opened fire on the officers, and wounded them in a number of places in a way that was at the time supposed would prove fatal. The colored men ran at once, and secreted themselves in the loft of an old house. It was ascertained that they were in the house, and finding themselves hemmed in, they surrendered. The mayor put them under guard and sent for the sheriff, who arrived at Chetopa in the evening. It was not thought advisable to bring them to the county jail in the night-time. In the meantime the guard which had been placed over them was continued. They were placed in the city hall, the sheriff and guard remaining with them. A mob of masked men broke into the room, put a revolver in the face of the sheriff and guard, blew out the light, slipped a noose over the head of each of the prisoners, dragged them to the rear end of the building, put them

on a scaffold which had been piled upon a wagon standing by the side of the building, fastened the rope inside, and then drew the wagon from under them, where they were left to hang until the next morning. No serious attempt was ever made to discover the murderers of these men, and no prosecution for the crime was ever instituted.

On April 1, 1890, Carrey S. Arnold killed John Bobzien, in the west part of the county, for which he was afterwards tried and convicted.

On October 22, 1892, William H. Mills, while sitting in a restaurant at Chetopa, was shot through the head by some party on the outside of the building, and instantly killed. G. A. Luman was arrested on suspicion, but was acquitted.

On December 17, 1892, Albert Shoemaker shot and killed his brother Allen. He claimed that the killing was in self-defense. His trial resulted in his acquittal.

There has been but one successful "hold-up" and robbery of a railroad train in this county. The passenger train going east over the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad was boarded at Mound Valley about 3 o'clock on the morning of September 3, 1893, by three men, two of whom at first took control of the express car and engine, and one the passenger coach. In the conflict that ensued Charles A. Chapman, the express messenger, was killed, and his body fell from the train. The robbers were unable to open the express safe, and secured nothing in that direction. All the passengers were relieved of such money, jewelry and valuables as they had about their persons. Before the close of the year the robbers were all captured, a party connected with them revealing their identity and their whereabouts. They proved to be Hance D. Hydrick, Claude



Shepherd and William Chadburn. The evidence of their guilt secured by the officers was so convincing that they all plead guilty and were sent to the penitentiary.

On January 28, 1896, Mrs. Maria A. Ashbell was found dead in the cellar of her house in Richland township, this county, with a bullet-hole through her head and a revolver lying by her side. Her husband, Marion Ashbell, was arrested on the charge of having murdered her. His defense was based on the contention that her death was the result of suicide. Court convened a few days after the killing, and Mr. Ashbell was forced into trial at that term of court over his strong protest. The most intense feeling prevailed throughout the county, and threats of lynching the prisoner were heard on several occasions. The trial lasted several days, and the jury, after being out a few hours, brought in a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree; this was on February 29, 1896. Two days after this sentence was pronounced, and on March 3d the prisoner was lodged in the penitentiary. Every effort was made to secure a reversal of this judgment and a new trial, but without effect. The case went to the Supreme Court at least three times.

In the fall of 1896 Rudolph Brockman, living in the northwestern part of the county, was arrested for the murder of his little girl. It appeared that he kept her in the barn, where for some time she lay sick and was supplied with none of the comforts which her condition demanded. From the evidence, the treatment certainly seemed most brutal and, no doubt, was the cause of the child's death, which occurred about the time, or soon after, his arrest. He was found guilty of murder in the first degree, and sentence was passed in accordance with the verdict.

### THE BENDER SLAUGHTER-PEN.

About the last of 1870 a family of Hollanders, or Germans, consisting of four persons—a man, his wife, son and daughter—moved on the northeast quarter of section 13, township 31, range 17, Osage township. The man was known as William Bender, the son and daughter as John and Kate. They erected a small frame house, 16 by 24 feet, which was divided into two parts by studding, on which hung an old wagon-sheet for a partition. In the front part they had a few articles for sale, such as tobacco, crackers, sardines, candies, powder, and shot. Just outside the door was a plain sign, "Groceries." In the front room were also two beds. They also pretended to furnish lunch and entertainment for travelers. In the back room, almost up against the partition studding, a hole just large enough to let a man down had been cut in the floor, the door to which raised with a leather strap. Under this an excavation had been made in the ground, leaving a hole some six or seven feet in diameter and about the same in depth. It was supposed that when a victim was killed in the daytime he was thrown into this hole until night, when he would be taken out and buried. Little was known of the family generally. They repelled rather than invited communication with their neighbors. Kate traveled over the county somewhat, giving spiritualistic lectures and like entertainments, but created very little stir or comment. The two young people occasionally went to church and singing-school, and the men frequently attended public meetings in the township. The place was on the road, as then traveled, from Osage Mission to Independence. During 1871 and 1872 several parties had traveled the road, making inquiries for persons



who were missing, who had last been heard from at Fort Scott or Independence. About March 10, 1873, a public meeting was held at Harmony Grove school-house, in district No. 30, to discuss the herd law. The matter of so many people being missing, and the fact that suspicion rested upon the people of Osage township, were spoken of. It was said a vigorous search should be made, under the sanction of a search warrant. Both of the Benders were present. Father Dick said, "Commence the search at my house," and father Dienst responded, "Yes, and go directly from there to my house." Old man Bender, who sat between them, made no reply. About the 1st of March, 1873, Dr. William York had left his home on Onion Creek, in Montgomery county, in search of a man and child by the name of Loucher, who had left Independence for Iowa during the previous winter and had never thereafter been heard of by their friends. Dr. York reached Fort Scott, and started to return about March 8th, but never reached home. In the fore part of April, Colonel A. M. York, with some fifty citizens from Montgomery county, started from Independence to make a thorough search for his brother. They went as far as Fort Scott, but could get no clue to the missing man. On their return they visited the Bender place and tried to induce Kate, who professed to be a clairvoyant, to make an effort to help discover the Doctor. But Kate was able to successfully elude their efforts without throwing any suspicion on herself. That night the Bender family left their place, went to Thayer, where they purchased tickets to Humboldt, and took the north-bound train at 5 o'clock on the following morning. A day or two thereafter their team was found hitched a short distance from Thayer, and apparently nearly starved. It was about the 1st

of May that a party passing the Bender place noticed the stock wandering around as though wanting care. On going to the stable he found the team gone, and a calf dead in a pen, evidently having starved to death. He then went to the house, but found no one there. He notified the township trustee, who, with other parties, went to the premises and broke into the house, where they found nearly everything in usual order, little if anything aside from clothing and bed-clothing having been taken. A sickening stench almost drove them from the house. The trap-door in the back room was raised, and it was discovered that in the hole beneath was clotted blood which produced the stench. The house was removed from where it stood, but nothing further was found under it. In a garden near by a depression was noticed, and upon digging down the body of Dr. York was found buried, head downward, his feet being scarcely covered. His skull was smashed in, and his throat cut from ear to ear. On farther search seven more bodies were found, all of whom, except one, were afterwards identified by their friends, viz.: Loucher and his little girl, seven or eight years old, buried in one hole; William Boyle, McCratty, Brown, and McKenzie. The other body was never identified. It is altogether probable that other parties were murdered, whose bodies were never found.

From the victims the Benders seemed to have procured, as far as it was afterwards ascertained, about the following money and property: From Boyle, \$1,900; from McCratty, \$2,600; from Brown, \$37, a team of horses and a wagon; from McKenzie, forty cents; from Loucher, \$38 and a good team and wagon; from Dr. York, \$10, a pony and saddle. A part of the property which they had disposed of was afterwards recog-

nized and restored to the friends of the murdered men. Those who attempted to follow the Benders became satisfied of the following facts: They took the train at Thayer and all went as far as Chanute, where John and Kate got off and took the M. K. & T. train south, on which they went to Red River, in the Indian Territory, which was then the terminus of the road. Here they were subsequently joined by the old folks, who seemed to have gone to St. Louis after John and Kate left them at Chanute. Detectives thought they were able to trace their wanderings through Texas and New Mexico. Parties supposed to be the Benders were apprehended in many parts of the country, and several were brought back to this county for identification, who proved to have little if any resemblance to this butcher gang. Two women, supposed to be the old woman and Kate, were arrested in Michigan in 1890, and brought to this county on requisition. On habeas corpus proceedings they were released, the court being satisfied that they were not the Benders. However, some parties who were well acquainted with the Bender family still assert that these were the real Bender women. Several parties who lived near the Benders were supposed to be implicated with them in their crimes, and some of them were arrested, but upon examination they were discharged, there not being sufficient evidence to hold them for trial. One or two of those thus arrested brought suit for false imprisonment, and obtained a verdict for a small amount of damages.

#### VIGILANCE COMMITTEE.

Members of this organization claim that it was formed at Luray, Clark county, Missouri, in September, 1863, by persons living along the

borders of Iowa and Missouri, to protect themselves from horse stealing and other crimes, and that from there the organization spread to other parts, and among them to Kansas. I am not interested in tracing its origin, but as a matter of public history it should probably be said that on one or two occasions they have made something of a stir in our county.

In August, 1872, a secret organization of many of the citizens in the western part of the county attempted to relieve the county of the presence of a few parties who were then residing there, among them William M. Rogers, John Kramer, W. D. McBride, and W. H. Carpenter. These parties were visited at night by masked men and warned to leave the county within a limited time. Some of them for a time disappeared in answer to this, but it was not long until the better-thinking portion of the community made its sentiments felt, and the proposition to have men's rights to live there determined by a secret council was shown to be too unpopular to succeed. It was deemed best to allow people who were charged with objectionable practices to have a fair chance for vindicating themselves before any summary proceedings were taken to require them to disappear.

On September 9, 1874, delegates from this and several adjoining counties met at Stover school-house, in Fairview township, in grand council. The names of several of our prominent citizens, and some of them among the most respectable and conservative, were connected with this meeting, and with the organization as then perfected. The business of the meeting was of course secret, but a series of resolutions was passed and given to the papers for publication. The tone of these resolutions indicates that the organization was assuming prerogatives which did not belong to any pri-

vate organization, whether open or secret. It is quite likely that the organization has accomplished some good as an aid to the civil officers in taking up and driving from our borders bands of men engaged in larceny and other illegal transactions, and possibly for these services some of its utterances may be overlooked which cannot be justified.

There have been a number of instances in the history of the county in which some of these secret organizations have played quite a conspicuous part in the settlement of criminal transactions, the facts in reference to which I have not within my control, and therefore in reference to them I will not attempt to speak; but it may be said that this county has probably been as free from transactions which can not claim the sanction of law as has any county in a new State.

#### CITIZENS' PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

In 1879 there were various local organizations formed for the purpose of aiding each other in resisting payment of what they claimed to be illegal obligations. Their contention was that they had made loans through loan agents representing Eastern capitalists, and that as the loan was not made until the application

was received in New York and accepted by the money-lenders there, and the notes were made payable in New York, it became a New York contract; and as the notes bore a rate of interest greater than was allowed by the law of New York, they were absolutely void under those laws. They received some encouragement in the way of legal counsel in the position they had taken, and some few efforts were made to defeat actions which were commenced for the collection of these notes. But the move was not as popular with the mass of the people as the leaders in it supposed it would be, and never resulted in anything more than expense to those engaged in it. A county organization was formed early in its history, of which J. B. Graham, of Jacksonville, was president; A. J. Robertson, of Oswego, vice-president; J. A. Robeson, of Ripon, secretary; J. W. Breidenthal, of Ripon, corresponding secretary; J. O. McKee, of Parsons, treasurer; T. P. Lane, of Labette City, marshal. These names are given as published at the time in the county papers. It is probable that the object of the organization was somewhat broader than here stated, but it was short lived, and is only mentioned as one of the incidents showing the tendency of public opinion on matters of finance and political economy.

## MISHAPS

---

In every community during a course of years, there are more or less occurrences which are generally regarded as misfortunes, some of which are the results of accidents and some of carelessness or mismanagement. Of these there have been quite a number in the history of the county. A few of these have either come under my own observation, or the knowledge of them has come to me while searching for facts on other subjects. I have made no effort to obtain this class of facts, but think it will not be out of place to mention a few of those about which I have learned.

On August 31, 1868, C. A. Kelso and Augustus Melvin, while crossing the Neosho in a skiff above the mill-dam at Oswego, ran into a drift which carried them over the dam; Mr. Kelso succeeded in getting to shore, but Mr. Melvin was drowned.

On September 18, 1869, the boiler to the sawmill engine located on Big Hill Creek, in Osage township, burst, and killed Messrs. Waymire and Worley, two of the proprietors.

On April 20, 1870, Wm. Patterson and Henry Bodine were examining a revolver in a street near the Oswego House. The revolver was accidentally discharged by Mr. Patterson and Mr. Bodine was instantly killed. The deceased was at the time under-sheriff, and his death caused a good deal of annoyance

in reference to official papers, as well as trouble to his family.

In June, 1870, some parties came to the office of Dr. J. H. Lane, in Elston, in the nighttime, and desired him to go several miles in the country to see a sick child. He lighted a lamp to dress by, but it was almost at once blown out, either by a gust of wind or by the parties in the room. He became unconscious. The last that he remembered in reference to this transaction was that he was on his horse going somewhere—he knew not where. When he awoke to consciousness again he found himself in Missouri, and learned that several weeks' time had elapsed since he left his home. When he left he had quite a large sum of money on his person, most of which was gone when he found himself in Missouri. He was never able to give any account of the cause for his loss of consciousness, nor to intelligently trace his wanderings.

Only a week or two after the mysterious disappearance of Dr. Lane, the county surveyor, E. G. Davidson, living near Daytonville, mysteriously disappeared, and some time thereafter found himself in Oregon. He was never able to give any more satisfactory account of his trip than was Dr. Lane of his. After an absence of a few months Mr. Davidson and Dr. Lane both returned to their homes.

In the summer of 1871, old Mr. Hart with his little daughter were attempting to cross Pumpkin Creek, at Duncan's ford; the creek was very high, but so strong was Hart's belief that he would not die until the second coming of Christ that he drove in, and he and his daughter, as well as the team, were drowned.

In the fall of 1871 two children of Wm. Chatfield, in the north part of Mount Pleasant township, were burned to death. While the parents were both away from home, the boys, aged about four and six years, got some matches and were playing prairie fire. The mother, who was at a neighbor's, saw the fire, and started home. The children got into a hen-house built of hay, and shut the door; the fire caught into this, and in spite of the mother's efforts the children were burned beyond recognition before they could be rescued.

On March 13, 1872, C. B. Pratt, postmaster at Ripon, was found dead in the road between his home and Chetopa, he having fallen from his wagon and been run over by one of the wheels.

In May, 1878, a family came into Oswego and located in the east part of town, and almost immediately a part of the family broke out with small-pox; several members died of the disease.

About the middle of December, 1880, while Richard Sloan was painting the Frisco House, at Oswego, he fell from the scaffold and was killed.

In April, 1881, Alexander Bishop lost a number of head of stock from hydrophobia, and a few months after that some 23 head near Edna had to be killed on account of the same malady.

In the summer of 1881 quite a large num-

ber of cattle in different parts of the county died from hydrophobia.

On September 20, 1881, the boiler of a locomotive on the M. K. & T. Ry. exploded near the residence of Ben Roberts, and killed the engineer and fireman and also two other engineers who were running with them, and tore the freight train almost to pieces.

On December 12, 1881, while W. P. Wilson and his son Thomas J. were crossing Pumpkin Creek, the water in which was then very high, their wagon capsized and young Mr. Wilson was drowned.

On May 13, 1882, a locomotive on the M. K. & T. Ry., while stopping at Oswego, by some means got started while both the engineer and fireman were in the depot getting orders. It ran a mile or two north, where it collided with a passenger train and smashed both engines, but killed no one.

On July 24, 1883, Edgar Stonecipher, a little son of Mrs. Sallie J. Stonecipher, died of hydrophobia. A little play dog had a few days before that made a scratch on his hand, which was not at the time thought sufficient to be at all dangerous, but from its effects the boy died.

During the high water of June and July, 1885, travel over the Labette bottom above Parsons had to be by boat. On July 2d Master Mechanic W. E. Phillips, having Chester Jones and T. Fox in the boat with him, was drawn into a current, and all were drowned.

In July, 1886, the boiler of the National Mills, at Parsons, exploded, and caused a great destruction of property.

In July, 1886, a family of movers stopped just before crossing the bridge north of Oswego, and for some cause their team commenced backing, and backed the wagon off the

bluff to the right. The mother was badly injured and a little boy had his leg broken.

In April, 1892, the barn of William Kollenberger, of Elm Grove township, was struck by lightning. Five horses and two cattle were killed, and the barn, with its contents of tools, grain, etc., was burned.

Since the foregoing account was prepared, there have been a good many instances of destruction of buildings by storms, by lightning and by fire, as well as other accidents to property and to persons. But none has come within my knowledge which I deem of sufficient general interest to separately mention here.



## METEOROLOGICAL

---

1865.—Fore part of season pleasant. July 4th, Neosho higher than has ever been known at any time down to 1885. Fall pleasant. Stock did well during winter, grazing on river bottom.

1866.—About usual weather up to May. June wet; all the streams were overflowing. What little crop was planted did well where it was not killed by overflow. In September the grasshoppers came in great numbers, and ate up everything that was green, completely filling the earth with their eggs. Fall and winter very mild.

1867.—January and February were very warm; the leaves were started in February, and grasshoppers' eggs were hatching this month. March was disagreeable, and colder than either of the winter months; it froze hard, and the young grasshoppers were all killed; they gave no trouble that season. Crops were not planted until the last of April. May and June pleasant. Latter part of June and July extremely wet; ground too wet to get on it with machines; grain had to be cut with cradles; streams overflowed. Very dry during the fall; streams got very low. A little cold weather during December.

1868.—There was considerable cold weather during January, the thermometer indicating 3 or 4 degrees below zero, and the ice on the Neosho being six to eight inches thick; the cold extended into the fore part of Febru-

ary. February was milder; some corn planted the last of the month made a good crop. A few showers during the fore part of March; snow and hail storms about the middle; it was a very windy month. Corn was generally planted about the first of April; cattle turned out to grass about the 10th. Several good showers during May. June was very dry, grass injured; corn badly damaged by hot and dry weather; harvest commenced about the last of June. The middle of July the thermometer ranged from 110 to 115. The latter part of August was the first time the ground had been soaking wet for a year. September, heavy rains; streams overflowed. Wheat sowing took place in October. Middle of November the ground was frozen. Latter part of November and fore part of December severe sleet and snow storm, and the same during the latter part of December.

1869.—January and February were mild and wet; the Neosho was over bank; cattle did well on the range with little or no feed. February 25th was the coldest day of the winter; thermometer was 5 degrees below zero; little snow during the winter. March was windy, rainy and disagreeable; cattle turned on the range the first of April. Corn mostly planted the latter part of April. Plenty of garden truck the latter part of May and fore part of June; frequent rains during June. Wheat harvest commenced the first of July.

August was dry and hot. Plenty of rains during the fall. Snow the 16th of November, and December 10th it fell to the depth of fourteen inches.

1870.—There were several cold days in January, but no extremely cold weather; several slight snows during January and February. February pleasant. Quite a hard snow on the 12th of March; the last of March a good rain, which was the first hard rain during the spring. On April 16th there was a hard frost which cut down the corn and potatoes. Wheat harvest commenced about the middle of June; latter part of June and fore part of July very hot. Latter part of July and fore part of August hot and dry; heavy rains the latter part of August. The fall very seasonable. High water during the latter part of October. Several inches of snow the latter part of December.

1871.—January 1st was pleasant; lettuce was growing in the gardens large enough to eat; January 12th to 15th heavy snow storms; extremely cold; snow 15 inches deep. February 3d a heavy rain, accompanied by wind. April 21st heavy frost, which killed grass and fruit. Last week of June was very warm; thermometer stood at 90 to 104 degrees; wheat harvest commenced the 1st of June. On the 1st of July a good rain fell. August and September were dry. November 13th, the first freeze; 18th, first snow. December cold, with little snow.

1872.—January cool, but generally pleasant; 7th, 14 inches of snow. February 1st, sleet and snow. March dry, and wheat suffering. Middle of May a good rain; last of May new potatoes were in market. Wheat harvest commenced about the 20th of June. Part of last half of December very cold.

1873.—Fore part of January sleet; snow

and showers during latter part of month. February was fine, with showers of rain, and snow. Severe hail storms during April; one very severe on the 5th; on the 8th it snowed and sleeted all day; at night the ground was covered with snow to the depth of four inches. During May and June there were heavy rains; Neosho River overflowed; harvest commenced about the 20th of June. August was very dry.

1874.—January pleasant, little snow or cold. Season all that could be desired for crops up to July. Chinch-bugs work on wheat some this year; harvest commenced about June 10th. July and August extremely hot; corn greatly injured; in August grasshoppers came. November 18th a sleet; and first freeze.

1875.—January was cold, but little snow. More snow in February. Oats sown about the 10th of March. Corn planting commenced about the 1st of April, and continued until June on account of two crops being eaten off by the grasshoppers.

1876.—Opened with a hard rain; no snow during January; weather cold, but not severe. No snow in February, and considerable cold weather. March 19th, 10 inches of snow on the ground, and the weather cold. Year closed with a cold spell and hard snow storm.

1877.—Fore part of January sleet and snow and weather somewhat cold, but generally the month was pleasant. During February and March there was much rain and roads muddy. Heavy rains in April and May. The fore part of May, Prof. Riley was in the county investigating grasshoppers; the eggs were then hatching. June 5th to 8th heavy rains and streams at high-water mark; houses on bottoms surrounded with water, corn crop washed out; June 28th one of the hardest rains ever known, accompanied by wind and hail. This season the corn was replanted two and in some instances

three times. There was plenty of rain during July and August. November 8th wind and snow. December was wet and muddy; no snow during the latter part.

1878.—January generally wet; roads muddy; wheat looked fine. February continued wet, but generally pleasant. In May the Neosho River overflowed; boats used for travel on the bottom lands; many families had to leave their homes and go to higher grounds; the San Francisco track was washed out; the streams were all out of bank. During June it rained almost incessantly; the ground too wet to harvest with machines; wheat cutting commenced about the 6th of June; most of it had to be cut with cradles; much of it was lost because of inability to get on the ground to harvest. Latter part of July and August were dry and hot. No frost until the 1st of December; about the middle of December heavy sleet; November 17th and following, Neosho frozen over—ice six to eight inches thick.

1879.—The first part of January was cold, with six inches of snow on the ground; more snow during the latter part of the month. New potatoes in market about the middle of May. Wheat cutting commenced June 10th; rain during the latter part of June. July and fore part of August hot; some fine rains. Good rains about the middle of August. The grasshoppers created a scare in September, but did no great amount of damage. The fall was dry and warm; November 10th a good rain. The year closed with the ground covered with ice and snow.

1880.—January warm; very little ice or snow. February, oats were sown and garden made. March was colder than January or February. April 28th, Prof. John Tice visited Oswego and lectured on cyclones; came to make scientific investigation on this subject.

Plenty of rain during May and June; crops look well. Summer very seasonable. Last part of August dry. October 7th, six inches of snow. November 16th, snowed all day, and was snowy and disagreeable until the 20th. December 23d, 12 degrees below zero; ice on the Neosho six inches thick.

1881.—Large quantities of ice were taken from the river the fore part of January. February 11th, hard snow storm; 23 degrees below zero. March, snowy. The summer was generally dry and hot. Rains commenced about the first of October. November 25th, sleet and ice.

1882.—January warm and muddy during the first part of the month, with cold weather the last part. February, a good deal of rain and little winter. May 12th, sleet and frost. Much rain during May and June. Hot wind in September. Considerable snow in December.

1883.—First part of January good sleighing and cold weather; January 5th, 20 degrees below zero; the month generally cold, with plenty of ice and snow. Fore part of February, a severe storm. The streams were all frozen from Christmas of 1882 up to the middle of February; generally frozen to the bottom, so that it was difficult to get water for stock; February 14th, ice commenced breaking up; latter part of February, rained so that by the opening of March roads were almost impassable. Spring was very cold and backward. June was very hot; 14th, the streams were out of their banks. Good rains during July. November 12th, a hard freeze. December 3d, five inches of snow, and more snow during latter part of the month.

1884.—January 1st, 5 degrees below zero; ground covered with snow; January 3d, 15 to 20 degrees below zero; January one of the

most disagreeable months for years. February was also wet and disagreeable; February 12th, one of the very hardest sleets ever experienced in this part of the country; many trees broken down. Spring did not really open until about the middle of March. May 1st, river high. Plenty of rain all summer. December 11th, snow storm; latter half of the month cold.

1885.—First part of January rainy; 23d, six inches of snow fell. February mostly cold, with considerable snow; March 17th, ground covered with snow, weather cold. This year was noted for its floods, no less than three occurring during the season. Heavy rains during April resulted in all the streams rising almost, if not quite, as high as had ever before been known; by the 22d of the month all of the bottom lands were submerged and crops destroyed; fences were washed away, and very much stock was drowned. On May 8th there was a slight freeze, and snow; corn was replanted, and very largely injured by the webworm. In the latter part of June the rain again set in, and by the opening of July the bottom was a second time entirely overflowed, this time the water being several inches higher than had ever before been known; families had to be brought out of the bottom to save them from perishing; many hundred acres of wheat that had been cut was washed away, and all crops that had been planted on the bottom lands were ruined; railway tracks in many places were entirely under water, and all trains were for a time stopped. On the San Francisco road, east of Oswego, a train-load of cattle was attempting to cross, but was stopped at the Neosho River bridge because of its dangerous condition, and before it could back up to high ground a large section of embankment had become washed away, leaving the train

standing in the middle of a lake several miles in width. An attempt was made to drive out a part of the stock; a number of them were drowned, and for days feed was shipped to the remainder of them in boats. Passengers and mail were transported from the east side of the river in boats for a number of days; freight shipments were completely blocked. The third overflow this season occurred in September, and while the water did not reach the height of either of the other two, yet all of the bottom land was inundated, and all crops thereon were destroyed. October and November were so muddy that farmers could hardly get into the fields to gather corn; in the middle of November the ground was frozen, and several inches of snow. December 25th, 10 degrees below zero.

1886.—January opened warm; damp and a little snow the first few days; several days of quite cold weather about the middle of the month; moderate the last half. Quite a snow storm the first of February, but the month was generally pleasant. March was a cold month; several snow storms and little spring weather until the last of the month. April and May were pleasant and seasonable months. July was a hot month. December opened and closed with cold weather; the thermometer standing several degrees below zero most of the month.

1887.—January and February pleasant; little snow and no very cold weather. March cold and quite a snow at the close of the month. July dry and hot. Good rains during August. November 10th, first freeze; latter part of month cold. December moderate and little snow.

1888.—A few cold days during January, but most of the month pleasant. February somewhat colder. Little spring weather until

the middle of March; March 28th, ground covered with snow. July very hot; corn damaged. November 10th, the first snow. December a little snow; weather generally moderate.

1889.—January quite wet; little cold. Latter part of February six inches of snow and several cold days. March and fore part of April damp and cold. July hot. December a very pleasant month.

1890.—January 7th sleet and snow storm; later part of the month and first part of February very pleasant. Considerable cold weather during latter part of February and fore part of March. April dry. May 16th, a hard frost. June and July extremely hot and dry. Good rains in August; August 17th, a severe hail and electrical storm. September was cold. October 27th, the first freeze. November wet and cold. December 7th, eight inches of ice and snow; latter part of December mild.

1891.—Fore part of January cold; most of the month mild. February wet and very cold. March 7th, snow storm. Spring backward. June, river banks full. Fall dry and hot. Wheat could not be gotten in until latter part of October and fore part of November. November 12th, quite a hard freeze; latter part of November and December pleasant and mild.

1892.—Severe snow during January; little weather that was very cold. Middle of March quite cold and considerable snow. Spring backward; oats not sown until April. Heavy rains in May; streams up. Latter part of June wet weather interfered with harvesting. August and September dry. Wheat generally sown about the last of October. November, good rains; month pleasant. December generally damp, cloudy and chilly, but no very cold weather till Christmas evening, when it turned cold and so continued for several days; several

slight snows during the month, but not enough at any time to make sleighing. Year closed with very little snow on ground, and ground slightly frozen.

1893.—January was dry and cold. Ice, six inches or more in thickness, was put up at different times during the month. Good sleighing the middle of the month. During the first half of February there were several days of good sleighing and ice was in nice condition for putting up. While there was some cold weather in the last half of the month, most of it was pleasant and farmers were busy plowing. March 1st oats sowing commenced, but was delayed by rains so that sowing continued until past the middle of the month. The week following the middle of March was unusually cold; the ground was too much frozen to plow during the forenoons for several days. There were several more rains during the last half of the month, and still others early in April. About the middle of April there was a heavy frost, which did much damage to fruit. The latter part of April and fore part of May there was much wet weather and many hard winds, which did more or less damage. Crops were looking badly on account of wet and cold weather. With the opening of June the water was high, and the Neosho was nearly out of its banks. There were several days of hot weather before the middle of the month; about the middle of June harvesting commenced. The first half of July was dry, with only a few light showers; about the middle of the month were several good showers, which were a great help to corn. On July 30th there was a hard rain, accompanied with lightning which struck several buildings. The first few days of August were dry and hot; there was a rain on the 10th, and another on the 27th; still the corn needed more rain than it received.



September was a dry and hot month; seeding was delayed on account of dry weather; there was a fairly good rain near the close of the month. The dry weather continued throughout October and November. On October 15th occurred the first freezing weather of the season, which was severe enough to kill vegetation. During November, especially toward the close, there were several showers which were a great help to wheat; the late-sown wheat had not come up until about the middle of the month on account of the dry weather. On December 2d a blizzard visited us; two inches of snow fell and streams were frozen sufficiently to make good skating. Quite a large amount of rain fell during the month; late-sown wheat now came up. A large amount of winter plowing was done before the close of the year.

1894.—The first half of January was dry and mild; plowing was progressing. On the 18th there was a good rain, after which it turned cold and so remained for several days. The first snow of this year fell on the 23d, and the thermometer stood at 15 degrees below zero. In the first week of February there was good sleighing; on the 11th there was a hard snow storm that blocked the roads two or three days. The cold weather continued during the first half of the month; it then commenced thawing, and the roads became very muddy. Oats sowing commenced the 1st of March, and was finished about the 10th. There were two or three rains the first half of the month. The weather was generally pleasant during March until just before its close, when it turned cold and damaged fruit very much. Corn planting commenced about March 20th. There was plenty of rain during April and also during the first half of May. On May 21st there was a frost that killed all

tender vegetation, and another cold wave struck us on the 28th. Two rains occurred toward the close of the month. Harvesting commenced the first week in June. On the 5th there was rain, and in the north of the county a hail storm which damaged crops; on the 25th there was a severe hail storm in the eastern part of the county. July opened with hot weather. There was a heavy rain on the 8th, and another on the 28th, but prior to the latter it had become quite dry. The first 20 days of August were dry and hot; the dry weather was broken by a rain on the 21st. Another heavy rain occurred on September 2d. This month was favorable for preparing the ground and sowing wheat. The first part of October was wet, and on the 7th occurred the first frost. This entire fall was pleasant weather. On December 25th came our first snow, and the mercury sank nearly to zero. The closing week of the year remained cold.

1895.—January was a cold month. About the middle of the month a large amount of ice, fully seven inches thick, was put up. Towards the close of the month a heavy snow fell, which lay on the ground a month; during the most of the time sleighing was good. During a greater part of the first half of February the weather was severely cold, the mercury reaching twelve degrees below zero on the 7th, and ice being put up a foot thick. About the middle of the month it moderated, and the remainder of the month was pleasant. Oats sowing commenced the last of the month. There was a cold spell the first week of March, and hard rains from the 12th to the 19th. There were also rains the first week of April. Corn planting did not really commence until about April 8th. There were more rains during the rest of April. May was mostly dry. There was nearly a week of cold weather about the



middle of the month. There was a little rain during the closing days of the month, but not as much as the crops needed. Harvesting commenced the first week in June. There were several good rains this month, from the fore part to past the middle. On the 1st of July there was a heavy rain and another on the 7th, the latter being accompanied by a small wind storm that did great damage all over the county. There was another hard rain and wind storm on the 10th of the month, and still other rains later in the month. July was, perhaps, the wettest summer month that has ever been known since the settlement of the county. August was another wet month; however, not quite so much water fell as during July. September kept up the effort to establish a reputation of a rainy season. On the 8th was one of the heaviest rains of the season. The ground was so wet that very little fall plowing was done until after the middle of September. A small acreage of wheat was sown this fall, owing to the inability of farmers to prepare the ground on account of wet weather. Near the close of November four inches of snow fell and there was nearly a week of freezing weather. The cold weather extended into December and furnished good skating. On December 18th and 19th there was a heavy fall of rain and snow; streams were full to their banks and in some places overflowing; much of the wheat on the bottoms was destroyed. The last week in the year was rainy and snowy.

1896.—January was an exceedingly dry month; there was a slight snow on the 20th, accompanied by colder weather for a few days, but most of the month was pleasant. What little rain there was in January and the first part of February came in a way to make very muddy roads. Oats sowing was in progress the first week of March. Corn planting com-

menced about the 1st of April. There was enough rain during April. May was a very wet month. Wheat harvesting commenced the 1st of June. There were several heavy rains during the month. July was another wet month. The first half of August was dry and very hot, and by the middle of the month corn was suffering for rain. On the 18th and 19th there was a soaking rain. September and October were favored with seasonable rains. Wheat sowing commenced the 1st of September. There were some cold rains early in November, and during the latter part of the month there were several days of freezing weather, which continued into the first week of December. December was dry and the weather mostly quite moderate to the close of the year, although there were a number of cold days.

1897.—January 1st was a beautiful day, but in a day or two it turned cold and was damp and disagreeable several days. On the 20th there was a fall of two inches of snow. The last week in the month there was a good deal of zero weather, and a nice lot of ice was put up. February was a damp, cool, disagreeable month, with muddy roads. The damp weather of February was continued in March; there was a good deal of rain throughout the month. Oats sowing was commenced about the 10th, and had many interruptions on account of the weather. After the first week in April the weather was pleasant. While some corn had been planted as early as the last week in March, corn planting in general did not commence until about the middle of April. There were two or three heavy rains during the month. May, June and July were all wet months. Harvesting commenced the middle of June. The wet weather of July was mostly during the first half of the month. The last half of July was very hot, and corn suffered.

some on account of the heat. The hot weather of July continued into August. Notwithstanding several rains, the ground was generally too dry to plow during the whole month of August, and the same character of weather continued throughout the remainder of the year. Wheat sowing commenced about the usual time, but on account of dry weather it was very generally suspended until late in the fall. There was a general rain on October 10th, but not enough to thoroughly wet the ground; farmers had to haul water for their stock and all other purposes during the whole fall, many of them having to go several miles. Much of the wheat did not come up until from the middle to the last of November. There was a slight freeze on November 17th. During the fall there were a number of local showers, but no general soaking rain. On December 3d and 4th enough snow fell to make sleighing, and in the middle of the month there was another light snow, accompanied by a blizzard, but the weather soon moderated; the last half of December was very fine weather.

1898.—On January 12th there was a good rain. Prior to that the weather was dry and mild. On the 18th and 19th there was a fall of 18 inches of snow, but the next day it commenced melting. There was another heavy rain on the 24th. It was, perhaps, the wettest January ever known here. There was not very much rain during February, but there was a good deal of cold weather. March was a wet and cold month; on the 21st there was a wind storm that did damage in the vicinity of Valeda, and on the 29th another one occurred, which was destructive at Bartlett; on the 22d of March there was a slight snow, and on the 28th a freeze which destroyed gardens and injured oats. On April 4th was one of the hardest rains ever known here, and with it fell

some hail. Corn planting commenced about the 10th of April, but owing to the wet weather it was much delayed, and much of it was not planted until in May. On May 1st a heavy rain, accompanied by wind, did damage at Chetopa and other points. A remarkable amount of water fell during the spring and summer, and the Neosho was out of its banks once of twice in July; the wet weather very much interfered with harvesting, and also prevented plowing until about the middle of August. There were several heavy rains in September, but wheat sowing was in progress from about the first of the month. There was a cold spell the latter part of October, and a blizzard accompanied by snow and sleet on November 21st. The latter part of November and the first half of December were cold, a good deal of the time the thermometer reaching zero or below. On December 3d eight inches of snow fell, and four inches more on the 11th; on the 18th there was a heavy rain, and the Neosho was out of its banks in places; the last week of the year was disagreeable weather and the roads were muddy.

1899.—The wet, muddy weather of the previous month continued into January. Generally, the weather during the month was mild; there was not enough ice for skating until near the close of the month, when there were several days of zero weather; on the 23d and 30th there were light snows. February was a cold month; there were a number of days when the mercury sank below zero, and on the 12th it reached 27 degrees below zero. The snow which fell on January 23d was added to on several occasions, and lay on the ground until past the middle of February; about the 20th of the month the weather commenced to moderate. Farmers commenced sowing oats the last of February. There was another snow

on the 4th of March, but it did not remain long, and still another on the 18th, when the weather was somewhat colder; on March 27th and 28th some six inches of snow fell and there was good sleighing for two or three days. This weather was repeated on the 5th of April, when there was a fall of five inches of snow; and sleighs were again running for a day or two. As a whole, the winter seems to have been the coldest one experienced for years, if not the coldest ever known here; quite a good deal of wheat was killed by the cold, and was plowed up and put into spring crops. Corn planting commenced about the middle of April, but was delayed by the hard rains occurring the latter part of April and the fore part of May. On May 9th there was a severe electrical storm. There were a number of hard rains during June and July, and the Neosho was out of its banks once or twice. Farmers commenced their wheat harvest about the middle of June. On August 13th there was a heavy rain, accompanied by wind, which did much damage to corn and fruit. While during the fall there were several rains, August, September and October were generally dry. There was plenty of rain during November. On the 11th and 13th of December there were several inches of snow, and on the 15th ice was thick enough for skating. Muddy roads prevailed during the latter part of December.

1900.—There were several slight snows during January, and one or two heavy rains, besides a good deal of damp, misty weather. The last half of the month was rather pleasant, and at the close of the month there was a hard freeze. The first half of February was pleasant; one or two rains in that time were helpful to wheat; on the 18th there was enough freezing to make good skating. The first week of March was cold and disagreeable; on the

5th there was a soaking rain. Farmers commenced sowing oats the second week in March, and planting corn about the 20th. About the middle of April there was a hard frost which killed to the ground most of the corn that was up. About April 11th, an electrical storm occurred in which several barns near Oswego were burned to the ground. May was rather dry and the month generally pleasant. There were several rains in June; on the 7th there was a hard wind storm. Harvesting commenced about the 11th but was somewhat interfered with by wet weather. Towards the close of the month there was some extremely hot weather. In July there were more hard rains. A quantity of grain was destroyed by the Neosho getting out of its banks. The fore part of August was dry but in the latter part of the month there were several rains and the wet weather continued into September; in fact, there was plenty of rain during September. Wheat sowing did not commence until about the middle of September. The Neosho was again bank full, and in some places out of banks the fore part of October. On October 9th occurred the first frost. The entire fall was mild and pleasant. The first freezing that was hard enough to make skating was in the last week in the year, and this lasted a day or two in January; but all the time the weather was pleasant. The only snow that fell this winter was on the 12th of February, 1901, and that was hardly enough to cover the ground well. The winter was one of the mildest and most pleasant in our history. Until the close of December there was nothing to interfere with plowing, and very little weather too cold to do any kind of farm work during January and the first part of February, 1901. Towards the close of February, there was a little freezing weather.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

I am indebted to D. Doyle and James M. Carrigan for the material contained in the following tables. Mr. Doyle kept the Government weather bureau station at Oswego until November, 1899, after which it was in charge of Mr. Carrigan. The maximum figures indicate the evening observations and the minimum figures the morning observations.

	TEMPERATURE REPRESENTED IN DEGREES			MOISTURE  Precipitation Reported in inches
	Maximum	Minimum	Mean	
1893				
January.....	41	29	35	1.80
February.....	36	18	27	1.13
March.....	30	31	30	1.78
April.....	45	21	33	7.34
May.....	70	52	61	5.16
June.....	88	68	78	4.46
July.....	97	63	80	3.98
August.....	97	58	78	1.80
September.....	108	36	72	3.10
October.....	77	34	55	1.82
November.....	60	30	45	1.68
December.....	46	28	37	9.00
For the year.....	66	39	52	41.45
1894				
January.....	41	29	35	1.50
February.....	55	24	40	1.10
March.....	66	34	50	3.45
April.....	78	42	59	2.27
May.....	83	49	66	3.13
June.....	93	63	78	3.61
July.....	98	60	79	4.07
August.....	99	61	80	5.00
September.....	85	53	69	6.78
October.....	82	41	61	5.9
November.....	51	34	43	2.95
December.....	36	24	30	1.23
For the year.....	72	43	58	35.68
1895				
January.....	41	21	31	1.60
February.....	38	12	25	5.0
March.....	61	30	45	2.50
April.....	76	47	62	6.7
May.....	83	41	62	3.22
June.....	85	53	69	6.41

	TEMPERATURE REPRESENTED IN DEGREES			MOISTURE  Precipitation Reported in inches
	Maximum	Minimum	Mean	
July.....	88	67	78	7.55
August.....	85	63	74	5.37
September.....	86	61	73	5.55
October.....	93	26	56	.00
November.....	59	34	47	2.95
December.....	46	28	37	9.50
For the year.....	70	40	55	45.82
1896				
January.....	47	28	38	.35
February.....	60	33	46	.67
March.....	58	34	46	1.31
April.....	76	54	65	3.31
May.....	85	61	73	7.00
June.....	88	64	76	5.86
July.....	92	70	81	5.96
August.....	99	69	84	2.47
September.....	84	58	71	3.81
October.....	84	46	65	4.02
November.....	58	38	48	1.33
December.....	56	32	44	1.17
For the year.....	74	49	61	37.26
1897				
January.....	40	24	32	4.17
February.....	68	31	49	2.00
March.....	61	35	48	4.47
April.....	69	49	59	3.33
May.....	79	52	66	1.24
June.....	88	66	77	4.21
July.....	95	68	81	6.26
August.....	93	65	79	1.44
September.....	96	63	80	.05
October.....	94	53	69	1.71
November.....	62	36	49	1.00
December.....	44	25	34	2.00
For the year.....	73	47	60	31.88
1898				
January.....	46	35	40	4.95
February.....	54	31	43	1.01
March.....	57	39	48	6.70
April.....	68	46	57	3.30
May.....	80	59	70	6.85
June.....	90	68	79	6.53
July.....	88	69	79	6.80
August.....	88	69	78	3.60
September.....	92	28	57	3.14
October.....	62	44	55	3.24
November.....	55	36	45	1.94
December.....	41	22	37	3.37
For the year.....	69	45	57	51.43

1899	TEMPERATURE REPRESENTED IN DEGREES			MOISTURE  Precipita- tion Recorded in Inches
	Maximum	Minimum	Mean	
January.....	42	28	35	1.18
February.....	38	20	29	1.73
March.....	54	34	44	2.34
April.....	67	46	56	5.57
May.....	80	61	70	.00
June.....	86	65	76	4.22
July.....	92	68	80	6.11
August.....	97	71	84	1.37
September.....	87	58	73	.55
October.....	87	56	71	3.28
November.....	60	40	50	1.81
December.....	45	25	35	1.63
For the year.....	70	48	59	29.79

1900	TEMPERATURE REPRESENTED IN DEGREES			MOISTURE  Precipita- tion Recorded in Inches
	Maximum	Minimum	Mean	
January.....	48	29	39	.30
February.....	43	22	32	1.90
March.....	55	36	46	1.59
April.....	75	48	62	3.73
May.....	80	57	69	5.94
June.....	90	65	78	8.76
July.....	89	67	78	4.23
August.....	93	70	81	2.45
September.....	85	63	74	8.03
October.....	78	53	65	2.19
November.....	54	36	45	1.45
December.....	50	29	39	.63
For the year.....	70	48	59	41.20

## STORMS

---

1871.—July 10th, hard wind followed by rain, at Parsons. August 27th, hard wind storm at Chetopa; several houses blown down (among them Lockwood's house, four miles west); tornado from northwest to southeast over Elm Grove and other townships; over 20 houses badly damaged and several completely destroyed; Mrs. Scott and child, in Howard township, killed; one man had an arm broken; Alfred Swope's house all blown to pieces; Mat Sharp's house, with 16 in it, blown over.

1873.—Night of April 5th hail storm broke out all window lights in west side of buildings in Oswego. May 22d storm at Jacksonville blew down several buildings and killed seven persons.

1877.—June 6th, wind storm at Chetopa blew down chimneys, tore off roofs, etc. June 18th, one of the hardest rains ever known, accompanied by wind and hail. August 18th, cyclone, water-spout, and hail storm, from southwest to northeast, between Chetopa and Oswego.

1878.—March 1st, cyclone between Labette and Parsons; J. M. Wilson's large barn picked up, carried some distance, and demolished; E. Well's barn, in North township, blown to pieces; picked his house up and put it down some two rods away; demolished R. Kimball's barn; took his house from foundation and turned it around; blew down stone building

for E. H. Taylor. June 6th, tornado over Labette City, which demolished the school-house and did some other damage.

1879.—May 30th, severe wind and rain storm at Chetopa; signs blown down, etc. June 14th, another hard wind storm, from west to east, over southern portion of county, partly removed Kinston Presbyterian church from foundation, and blew in one or two buildings in Chetopa. July—Wind blew down east span of Chetopa bridge, then in process of erection.

1880.—April 2d, severe hail storm in Walton, and also in northern part of county generally. May 8th, small cyclone west of Chetopa damaged W. E. Liggett's kitchen and orchard. December 11th, severe rain and wind storm at Chetopa; partly removed Catholic church from its foundation; also other buildings.

1881.—September 29th, a small tornado in Oswego scattered some of Sharp's lumber, blew down Tuttle's porch, etc.

1883.—May 13th, a cyclone from the Territory came in west of Cecil, blew Cecil M. E. church to pieces, throwing the capstones to the windows through the air, but leaving Bible and hymn-book untouched on the box used for a pulpit; blew M. U. Ramsburg's house to atoms, partly tore down other buildings, and uprooted trees. The storm occurred about 6 p. m., just



after church was out. At the same time both houses at Fishkill were reported to have been torn down.

1884.—July 2d, tornado blew Cecil church to atoms; destroyed houses, barns, grain; heavy hail.

1885.—September 11th, hail storm at Parsons and vicinity.

1893.—April 19th, quite a severe electrical storm at Edna. April 25th, a hail storm did considerable damage at and in the vicinity of Oswego. May 8th, heavy hail storm in the western part of the county.

1894.—June 25, one of the hardest hail storms ever known in the county visited the southern and eastern portion of the county; nearly all the grain between Oswego and Chetopa was destroyed; the oat straw was cut into small pieces.

1895.—July 5th, an electrical storm at Chetopa. July 7th, a very severe wind storm extended over most of the county; at Altamont, it unroofed buildings, blew down porches and did other general damage; at Chetopa, it blew down the smoke-stack to the electric light plant, removed and destroyed nearly all the awnings and porches in the business part of the town, broke down trees and caused a large amount of other damage. At Oswego, the

water works iron stand-pipe was blown down, the streets were obstructed with broken shade trees, the opera house and several other buildings were unroofed, and general damage was sustained in very many ways; at other points in the county the damage was not so great.

1896.—May (near the close), a hard wind storm blew down or removed from their foundations several buildings in the northeast part of the county.

1898.—May 1st, a wind storm unroofed some buildings in Chetopa and removed others from their foundations.

1900.—June 7th, a tornado swept over quite a large portion of the county. In the southeastern portion it unroofed some buildings, broke down trees and made itself felt in other respects. Just west of Oswego it blew a portion of a train from the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad tracks. At Labette it made a total wreck of the Baptist church and also blew down one or two dwelling houses and several barns. Along the Neosho bottom, in the northeast part of the county, it wrecked several buildings, broke down trees and injured crops. Trees were blown down and a large number of buildings more or less injured in Parsons. Ten days later this storm was duplicated in the northeast part of the county.

## MUNICIPAL TOWNSHIPS

---

While we were still a part of Neosho county, we were recognized by its authorities as being of sufficient importance to be provided with at least apparent municipal privileges. The first official record which I have found, directly tending to give us these privileges, was made March 6, 1865, by the commissioners of Neosho county, at which time, in dividing the county into municipal townships, they formed Mission township, and made it embrace all south of Canville township as far south as the county line, and established Osage Mission as the voting-place of the township. By this order of the commissioners, the southern part of Neosho county, and all of what is now Labette county, was embraced in one township, with Osage Mission as the headquarters thereof. The next official action affecting our municipal affairs was made by the commissioners of Neosho county on July 2, 1866, the record of which is as follows:

"On motion, it was resolved that the south line of Mission township shall be designated as follows: By a line running due east and west across three miles due south of Osage Catholic Mission.

"On motion, it was resolved that there be a township organized to be called Lincoln township, and to be bounded as by a line running due east and west from a point two miles north of the mouth of Hickory Creek across the county, on the north by Mission township, on

the east by the county line, and on the west by the county line. Place of voting, Trotter's ford, on the Neosho river, at Patterson's store.

"On motion, it was resolved that there be a new township organized south of Lincoln township, to be called Grant township, bounded as follows: On the north by Lincoln township, on the east by county line, and on the south by line running due east and west from Reaves's mill-site on the Neosho River, on the west by county line. Place of voting, Montana.

"On motion, it was resolved that there be a new township organized south of Grant township, to be called Labette township; said township to be bounded as follows: On the north by the south line of Grant township, on the east by the county line, on the south by the county line, on the west by the county line. Place of voting: J. S. Steel's house."

This provision made a strip something over a mile in width of what is now Labette county a part of Lincoln township, and the remainder of Labette county was divided into Grant and Labette townships.

Before the organization of Labette county, the governor appointed two justices of the peace: one, George Bennett, residing at Montana; and the other C. H. Talbot, residing at Oswego. From the record in the office of the Secretary of State, it would seem that two orders were made for the appointment of Mr.

Bennett—one on May 15, and the other on June 8, 1866. I do not know what was the cause of this. On July 3, 1866 the commissioners of Neosho county approved Mr. Bennett's bond as justice of the peace, which made him the first legally qualified civil officer residing in what is now Labette county. Mr. Talbot was appointed September 24, 1866, and probably qualified soon thereafter, although I have not the date of his qualification.

Upon the appointment of the commissioners for the organization of the county, before calling an election, they divided the county into nine precincts: four in range 21, the south one of which they named Chetopa; three in the central part of the county, designated North, Labette and Hackberry; and two in the western part, which they designated Timber Hill (or possibly Big Hill, as Mr. Dickerman, then county clerk, says), and Pumpkin Creek. However this name is not given at all in any record we now have, but in the first reference to this part of the county in the commissioners' proceedings, it is called Canada. Of the division thus made there was no change until November 21, 1867, excepting to more definitely organize Timber Hill and Canada townships. The only change subsequently made was to divide some of these townships and create new municipalities.

### NEOSHO TOWNSHIP.

The settlement of this township commenced in the summer of 1865. I have found no one who knows the date of the first settlement, nor even who the first settler was. Much of the information from which this account is made is derived from James W. Galyen, who settled on the south half of section 8, township 31. range 21, Dec. 25, 1865. When he came there were

already along the river several families, all of whom had come that fall and winter; so that it may be safely said that the settlement of the township did not commence prior to September of that year. It is probable that the first settlers in the township were a company who came from Texas, composed of a Jones family and a Cox family, each containing quite a number of individuals, and some others. They seemed to have been on their way north, without any very definite point of destination in view, and were camping along the river in this township, allowing their stock to feed, when they heard of the proposed treaty with the Osages and concluded to locate there. Among those who were located when Mr. Galyen came were: Jesse Frye, on section 9; a man by the name of John Buck, on the east side of the river; Newton Lowery, on section 5; and Mr. Spriggs, on section 16. Mr. Spriggs had a pole shanty on his claim at this time, but never brought his family here, and sold his claim to Asa Rogers. Craig Coffield and Clark Coffield located on section 28, in November; Holland and Baldwin were located on section 4. At the close of 1865 it is probable that there were not to exceed a dozen families in the township, and some of these were only there for the purpose of holding the claims until they could get something out of them and then leave. In 1866 many more settlers came in, and much was done toward improving the claims taken. Messrs. Brown and Sampson R. Robinson brought a saw mill from Bourbon county and located it on section 4, in the fall of 1866, and soon had it in operation. This was the first mill in operation in the county, and from it Mr. Galyen got the first lumber that was made, which he used to make a floor for his cabin. All the cabins up to this time had nothing but dirt floors. Of the settlers who came about this

time I may mention William Logan, who came early in 1866. He ran a blacksmith shop at Jacksonville; was the first trustee of the township, having been elected at the election in April, 1867, and was elected county commissioner in the fall of 1867, and figured quite largely in the local affairs in that part of the county. Nathan Ames came in the latter part of 1866, and settled on sections 16 and 17, and at once became one of the leading spirits in the new settlement. Messrs. Pringle and Marguad settled on section 21 the same fall.

#### CELEBRATIONS.

On July 4, 1866, the first celebration in that part of the county was held in Kenney's grove on the northwest quarter of section 23. All the settlers in that part of the county gathered here to see each other and participate in the celebration. Dr. Thurman, who lived on section 22, read the Declaration of Independence. On July 4, 1867, another celebration was held, this time in Logan's grove, at which J. F. Belamy, who had shortly before that time moved into the vicinity, gave the address.

#### RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

A Mr. Owens was located on the northeast quarter of section 5, in 1866. His wife was an enthusiastic worker, and that summer opened in their own house and conducted the first Sunday-school in the township, which was continued until the winter. We have no account of any preaching in the township until 1867, when Joseph Rogers, who was a Methodist local preacher living on section 16, west of the river, commenced holding services at private houses at different points in the township. After the school-house in district 16 was com-

pleted, Rev. Jackson Statton commenced preaching there, and continued for some time to hold services.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first school in the township was taught by Mrs. Abigail Ames, wife of Samuel Ames, in their own house on the northwest quarter of section 14, in the spring of 1868. That fall E. H. Taylor commenced teaching school in a house on section 5, and finished in the log school-house which the citizens turned out and constructed that fall. In this school-house, as soon as it was finished a literary society was organized, of which Mr. Taylor was president, and at the meetings nearly all the people in that part of the county were present.

#### INDIANS.

West of the Neosho River on both sides of the county line, partly in section 5 in this county, partly in Neosho county, was situated one of White Hair's towns. This was abandoned about the time the white settlers commenced coming in here. About 100 graves could be counted on this site, in some of which the frame of the occupant was still sitting and well preserved. The burying was done by piling stones over the lower extremities, leaving the body in a sitting posture, and then piling up stones around it. When the settlers came here they found the remains of an old building on section 4, the posts still standing, giving evidence that at some prior time the Catholics from the Mission had probably had a station. The mile-posts between the Cherokee Neutral Lands and the Osage Reservation were still standing as they had been placed there by the surveyors when the lines had been run.

## INCIDENTS.

T. D. G. Marquand and Mary Buck were married, it is said, in April, 1866; if this is correct it must have been the first marriage in the county after the war.

In May, 1866, Mr. and Mrs. Hampton had born to them twins, named John and Mary.

## ORGANIZATION.

There has been no change in the boundary of the east tier of townships from the time of their organization. They were all laid off by the commissioners appointed for the organization of the county, prior to the first election. There is no record of their organization prior to November 21, 1867, when the whole county was laid off into townships, at which time it was declared, "Neosho township No. 1 shall include town 31, R. 21." Two voting precincts have been maintained in the township almost from its organization—one on the east and the other on the west side of the Neosho. There is no record showing who were elected officers in April, 1867, but on October 23, 1867, the resignation of John W. Ankron as justice of the peace is accepted, and the record subsequently shows J. B. Graham to be one of the justices of the peace. On January 14, 1868, "It is hereby ordered, that the office of township trustee in Neosho township be declared vacant, as the present holder of said office has been elected to a county office." This evidently refers to William Logan, who had been elected and qualified as one of the county commissioners, and it is safe to say he was the trustee elected in April, 1867. On the day on which the office was declared vacant as above, Anthony Amend was appointed to fill the vacancy. For some reason which I do not know, no election was

held in this township in April, 1868, and the following officers were appointed by the commissioners: Anthony Amend, trustee; N. H. Hopkins, clerk; S. K. Robinson, treasurer; J. B. Thurman and William Fish, justices of the peace; John Summers and Noah Frye, constables; John Radfield, road overseer.

## BRIDGES.

The officers of this township were the first to take steps toward bridging the streams. The action of the trustees created a good deal of dissatisfaction. It was claimed that a "job was put up" by which a large amount of money was to be paid by the township and received by some one for inferior bridges. A tax of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mills was levied in 1868 for building bridges.

## NORTH TOWNSHIP.

In the spring of 1866 a firm of millers at Iowa sent some teams loaded with flour and meal down the Neosho, to sell to the settlers along the river. Two teams came into what is now Labette county, and on their return made such a favorable report of the county that several in that vicinity, and some connected with the mill, came down. Among these were Messrs. Carr, McBride, Wells, Ballentine, and Smith; the latter settled at the junction of the Big and Little Labette, and put up a small shanty. Mr. Ballentine paid Mr. Smith \$60 for this claim, which took in most of the timber at this point. Just previous to this, Zack Fultz had laid a foundation on a claim adjoining this on the east, and when the survey was made, the improvements of the two claims were found to be on the same quarter. Mr. Fultz paid Mr. Ballentine \$200 for his improvements, and got the claim. Mr. Ballentine then bought Mr.

Hart's claim, on section 36, where he settled and made his home. Mr. Hart then moved over to the Labette, in Liberty township, just below the mouth of Bachelor Creek. Fred Latham settled on section 27, and his father-in-law, Mr. Keys, upon a claim just west of the creek. About the same time William Tolen settled in the northern part of the township, and gave the name to a little stream, "Tolen Branch." In July, 1867, the following settlements were made: Albert Porter and W. H. Porter, on section 20; William Fultz, on section 17; Abraham Cary, on section 18; John Kendall, on section 19.

#### SAWMILL.

In the fall of 1868 Moses Steel and his brother Len Steel brought a saw mill and put it in the forks of the Little and Big Labette, and had it in operation early in 1869.

In June, 1869, Abraham Cary brought from Lawrence the first reaper and mower that was had in this part of the county.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Originally North township included its present territory and also the east half of what is Walton township, and on November 21, 1867, in reforming the townships the commissioners ordered that "North township No. 7 shall include town 31, R. 19, 20," and it continued with these bounds until Walton township was detached. There seems to have been no election held in this township in April, 1867, at the time when the first county and township officers were elected. On October 4th an order was made by the commissioners for an election to be held for township officers in this township at the November election following. At this

time the following officers were elected: Samuel Ballentine, trustee; William Scott and David B. Stevens, justices of the peace; James M. Clayton and D. W. Reed, constables; and John Steward, road supervisor. These were the first township officers. There is no record of either clerk or treasurer being elected at this time. On April 7, 1868, the following officers were elected: Samuel Ballentine, trustee; J. D. Keys, clerk; F. W. Latham, treasurer; William Porter and A. Medkiff, justices of the peace; William Fultz and Oscar Knowles, constables; and Zack Fultz, road overseer. In April, 1869, H. Singleton was elected trustee, and Samuel Ballentine treasurer. By some arrangement made at the time, which does not appear of record, Mr. Ballentine, instead of taking the office of treasurer, was continued as trustee for another year.

#### WALTON TOWNSHIP.

The first settler in Walton township was Jefferson Davis, who came in June, 1866, and located on the southeast quarter of section 22. In August of that year the Weekly family, consisting of Luther, Perry, John, and Mary, located on section 17, and David Edwards on the northeast quarter of section 23. In the spring of 1867 Merrit Mason came, and bought the northeast quarter of section 17 from Mr. Weekly, and thereon made his home. In the fall of 1866 John Collins settled on the southeast quarter of section 36. Perhaps during these years there may have been a few other settlers along the Little Labette, but if so I have not learned the names of such. In 1869 the township received a large number of settlers. On May 1st Nelson Parker settled on the southwest quarter of section 27, and about the middle of May J. A. Jones settled on the



northeast quarter of section 26; not far from the same time Alexander Ables and William Ables on the east half of section 29, George T. Walton on section 16, J. M. Gregory on section 26. W. A. Disch, E. P. Emery, S. R. Hill, John Parker, C. C. Kinnison and R. P. Clark were all there before the opening of 1870; and on February 5, 1870, S. B. Shafer settled on the southwest quarter of section 21.

#### CATHOLIC SETTLEMENT.

During the summer of 1869 quite a large number of Catholics settled in the northern part of the township, and have ever since been among the most thrifty and progressive settlers of that vicinity.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Walton township was a part of North township as originally constituted. An order of the commissioners was made on April 6, 1870, on the petition of G. T. Walton, M. S. Mason, T. O'Connor, and some 50 other electors, for the organization of township 31, range 19, into a municipal township to be called Walton, and the following officers were appointed: Merrit S. Mason, trustee; A. C. Perkins, clerk; Timothy O'Connor, treasurer; Jason Luncinford, constable. On account of ill-health Mr. Mason was granted permission to appoint a deputy to assist in performing the duties of trustee.

#### OSAGE TOWNSHIP.

The settlement of what is now Osage township dates from the fall of 1866. The first person to locate within the present bounds of this township was Thomas May and family,

who settled upon the northwest quarter of section 5, township 32, range 18, in September, 1866, where he died the following year. There being no lumber in that locality, the neighbors sawed up a wagon-bed and made a coffin in which to bury him. The next settler was Milton A. Buckles, who came December 3, 1866, and settled on the northwest quarter of section 33. Isaac Vance located with his family on the southeast quarter of section 29, township 31, range 18, on which he died, in 1870. Harvey Beggs settled on the southeast quarter of section 7, township 32, range 18, and after living on it several years moved away in 1871. Solomon Adams and family resided on the northwest quarter of section 6, township 32, range 18, till 1870, when he moved away. On the southeast quarter of this same section Harvey Waymire made his home, and put up the first saw mill in the township in May, 1869. In the fall of 1869 the engine with which the saw mill was run exploded, and killed Mr. Waymire and Mr. Worley.

In 1867 many settlers came in, of whom I will mention a few: Felix Oliphant, John Oliphant, Frank Larberdy, John Frost, Thomas J. Vance, George Vance, W. H. Carpenter, J. H. Dienst, Jacob D. Dick, Henry Griffith and Alexander W. King are among those who that year helped to develop the county. Of those who came in 1868, F. M. Webb, W. H. Webb, J. H. Beatty, J. A. Newman, W. M. Rogers and Leroy F. Dick may be mentioned as active promoters of the general spirit of enterprise.

William A. Starr, William Dick, J. L. Jaynes, John Carson, C. J. Darling, P. B. Darling, J. S. Masters, J. B. Swart, Jacob Warner, John Robinson, W. H. Thorne, G. W. Blake and W. W. Blake settled in 1869 and 1870, and each added a fair share to the prosperity and development of the township. Did

I know all the settlers and were I acquainted with all the facts, others might probably be mentioned who are as worthy as any whom I have named; but these are named as a fair sample of those who first settled and developed this northwest corner of the county.

#### FIRST SCHOOL.

Mrs. Elizabeth A. King, who with her husband, A. W. King, had settled on the southwest quarter of section 28, township 31, range 18, in June, 1867, taught the first school in the township, in the summer of 1868, as I am told by Mr. King, in their cabin on his claim. It was a free school for the few children then in the neighborhood.

#### CELEBRATION.

The first celebration in the township was July 4, 1869, on the northwest quarter of section 29. Milton Buckles read the Declaration of Independence. The day was principally given up to a picnic and social enjoyment.

#### RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

In the fall of 1867 the citizens met and put up a big house on Pleasant May's claim in the bottom on the west side of the creek, on section 5, in township 32, to be used for religious and other gatherings. In this the first Sunday-school was organized, in the spring of 1868, with Pleasant May as superintendent. A. W. King was the first preacher in the township. He, with David Stanfield, J. S. Harryman, and Sheldon Parker, of the Methodist church, and J. L. Masters, of the Christian church, dispensed the Gospel for several years over quite a portion of the new settlements in the western part of the county.

#### BUSINESS.

The first store in the township was started in 1868, on the southeast quarter of section 33, township 31, range 18, by Luther Weakly and Frank Larberdy. In the fall of 1869, G. W. and W. W. Blake put in a stock of general merchandise in a building erected on the town-site of Timber Hill, which they continued to deal in until 1871.

Dr. Lakins was the first in the township to offer his services as an aid to those desiring relief from physical ailments. He died a number of years ago, but his faithful mule, "Joab," it is said, still survives him. In 1869 Dr. Boutillier opened a small drug store, which he ran in connection with his practice.

The following letter may be appropriately inserted here:

"COFFEYVILLE, KANSAS, Jan. 18, 1892.

*"Judge Nelson Case, Oswego, Kansas—*  
DEAR SIR: I settled in Osage township, Labette county, in the autumn of 1866, in company with Harry Waymire and Isaac Vance. There was but one man before us, a Mr. May, who had built his cabin just before our arrival. Others followed fast and when the spring of 1867 had opened we had quite a settlement on the Big Hill Creek. In July, 1867, I was appointed a committee to visit the commissioners at Oswego and procure an order for the organization of a municipal township, which was effected at once. I remember well that when I found the commissioners' court, which I had some trouble in doing, the commissioners were sitting astraddle of the sleepers in a hewed-log house in Oswego. There was neither door, floor nor windows, the house not being finished at the time.

"The first child born in the township was

Rolla Wood, son of Zachariah and Matilda Wood.

"Our nearest postoffice was Roger's store, where Chanute now is. We did our milling at Humboldt, and hauled lumber from the Neosho. I believe I am the only survivor of the first settler of Osage township.

"Very respectfully yours,

"MILTON A. BUCKLES."

#### ORGANIZATION.

I am not quite sure whether the first name by which this territory was known was Timber Creek or Big Hill township. The commissioners appointed to organize the county laid off the west part into two precincts, which Mr. Dickerman says were designated Timber Hill and Pumpkin Creek; but no voting-place was designated in either of them at that time, probably for the reason that there was not a sufficient number of residents to justify the holding an election therein. The first official record we have relating to this township is the order of the commissioners made June 5, 1867, declaring that "Timber Hill township shall include townships 31 and 32, range 18, and the west half of townships 31 and 32 of range 19, and as far west as the county line." In this order, as it appears in the *original* record, written on foolscap paper, the name of the township is first written Big Hill, and a line is drawn through "Big," and "Timber" is written above it. On July 1, 1867, it was "Ordered that a precinct be established at Timber Hill at the residence of Mr. Frank Larberdy, in Timber Hill township, T. 31 and 32, R. 18 and 19." On October 21, 1867, it was "Ordered that Timber Hill township to be changed to Big Hill," and at the same time it was ordered that the voting precinct be

changed from Mr. Larberdy's to Mr. Eli Sparks. The first election in the township was held November 5, 1867, at which the following officers were elected: J. S. Blair, trustee; Isaac Van Sickle and Eli Sparks, justices of the peace; H. Waymire and J. Courtney, constables; Z. C. Wood, road overseer. On November 21, 1867, the commissioners made an order more definitely fixing and somewhat changing municipal townships, by the provisions of which it was declared that "Big Hill township No. 8, shall include town 31 and 32, R. 17 and 18." On April 6, 1868, a petition therefor having been made to the commissioners, they ordered "That the township commonly known as Big Hill shall hereafter be known in all official transactions as Osage township," and at the same time made an order establishing the south line of Osage township so as to include the north half of township 32, in ranges 17 and 18.

#### AN ORDER NOT ACTED ON.

On November 12, 1870, on the petition of Albert Allison and 49 other citizens for a division of the west tier of townships into four instead of three, forming a new township out of parts of Osage and Mound Valley townships, it was ordered that township 32, ranges 17 and 18, be detached from Osage and Mound Valley townships and organized into a municipal township under the name of Big Hill township, for which the following officers were appointed: William Johns, trustee; Albert Allison, clerk; S. C. Hockett, treasurer. I find no action of the commissioners changing or revoking this order; nevertheless, the order was never acted upon, the officers appointed never qualified, and Osage and Mound Valley townships remained as though no such order had ever been made.

## STOCK.

On May 30, 1871, on the petition of William Dick and 69 others, the commissioners made an order restraining stock from running at large at night-time for a term of one year.

## PIONEER ASSOCIATION.

On September 17, 1875, the Osage Pioneer Association was organized, with S. C. Hockett as president, Joel Bergess, vice-president, W. A. Starr and ——— Lindsey, secretaries, and William Dick, treasurer.

## MOUND VALLEY TOWNSHIP.

1866.

There were two early settlers in this county who would be in Mound Valley township except for the fact that in 1870 more than two miles of our territory was given to Montgomery county. On June 3, 1866, Mr. Rutherford settled on the northeast quarter of section 4, in township 33, of range 17, and on December 10, 1866, R. M. Bennett, afterwards county treasurer, settled on the southeast quarter of section 5, in the same township.

The first white people to make settlement in Mound Valley township as now constituted were the families of Mr. McCormick and Mr. Courtney. If any one was there before them, he left no trace of his habitation. Joseph McCormick, with his wife Martha and his son Joseph C., and in company with them John M. Courtney and his wife Mary, came from Danville, Ill., and on July 24, 1866, took their respective claims in this township. Mr. McCormick settled on parts of sections 23 and 24, township 32, range 17, where he made his home until his death, on December 10, 1871,

his wife having died the March preceding. Mr. McCormick lived in his wagon until he could build a log house, which he completed in about two months. He soon brought on a few goods, with which he traded with the Indians for their buffalo meat and such other things as they had to dispose of that he could use. Mr. Courtney settled on a part of section 26, township 32, range 17, which he improved and on which he lived till he moved to Cherryvale, where he now resides. John McMichael came in September, 1866, and settled on the same section as Mr. Courtney. In November, 1866, Eli Sparks settled on the southeast quarter of section 18, township 32, range 18.

1867.

Green L. Canada settled on the northeast quarter of section 17, township 33, range 18, January 12, 1867. William Jones and John M. Stigenwalt came February 20, 1867. Mr. Jones settled on the section with Mr. Courtney and Mr. McMichael, and Mr. Stigenwalt settled on the section with Mr. Sparks, where he lived on a well-improved farm until August 25, 1892, when he died from the effects of a kick by a horse, received the day before. John W. Claspell came in September, 1867. Samuel C. Hockett near that time settled on section 18, together with Mr. Sparks and Mr. Stigenwalt, while his daughter, Josie Hockett, took a claim north of him, on section 7, in Osage township.

1868.

J. G. Penix settled on the northwest quarter of section 25, township 32, range 17, on April 8, 1868, where he lived for fifteen years, made a good farm, and is now in Cherryvale,

enjoying the fruits of his industry. D. S. Muncie took the southwest quarter of section 25, township 33, range 18, on which he built, in 1869, a one and one-half story frame house, 16 by 24 feet. The lumber for this he hauled from Chetopa. This was the first frame house in this part of the township. In 1870 Mr. Muncie sold his farm to J. H. Tibbits.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Mound Valley township was originally a part of what afterward became Osage and Canada townships. It was not until June 13, 1870, that, upon the petition of Henry Rohr and some 50 other residents of its territory, the commissioners made an order for the organization of four tiers of sections lying north and the same number lying south of the line between townships 32 and 33 in ranges 17 and 18, into a municipal township with the name of Mound Valley. The following officers were appointed for the new township: Josephus Moore, trustee; Alexander Honrath, clerk; J. M. Richardson, treasurer. At the same time, on the petition therefor, the order of the commissioners was made restraining stock from running at large in the night-time for the term of five years. On July 28, 1870, Jonas Parks was appointed constable, and S. C. Hockett was recommended for the appointment of justice of the peace.

#### LABETTE TOWNSHIP.

The first settlement of this township as now constituted commenced in the fall of 1868, but there were only a few who came before the spring of 1869. The first settlers were scattered along Bachelor creek. Of these I may mention Leveret Wood, who came in the fall of 1868, and settled on the northeast quarter

of section 1; the next spring John Singleton settled on the northwest quarter of section 1, and James H. Martin on the northeast quarter of section 2; Millard Sargent on the northwest quarter and his brother on the southwest quarter of the same section; Edward C. Sanford on the northwest quarter of section 3, Major Hope on the southeast quarter, and Calvin S. Tracy on the southwest quarter of section 36. All of these parties were located prior to the middle of July, 1869, at which time John J. Miles settled on the southwest quarter of section 34.

With the opening of 1870 many new parties came into the township, of whom I may mention Thomas Mahar and his sons, who settled on section 21. The settlement of this township was nearly completed when James Beggs, on March 16, 1871, settled on the southwest quarter of section 19.

#### ORGANIZATION.

In the original division of the county into municipal townships, made by the commissioners prior to the first election in the spring of 1867, the central portion of the county, embracing what is now Liberty, Labette, Mount Pleasant and Fairview townships, was made to constitute the township of Labette. The first official record we have of the formation of this township is an order of the board made November 21, 1867, in which Labette township is numbered 6, and is declared to include townships 32 and 33, in ranges 19 and 20. It is possible that there was an election held in the township in the spring of 1867, and probably one was held in the fall of that year, but as to both of these the record is silent. The first election of which we have any record was held on April 7, 1868. At this election H. P. Reeding was elected trustee, M. H.

Logan, clerk; J. F. Molesworth, treasurer; E. Reed and J. P. Peterson, justices of the peace; G. W. Springer and T. M. Abbott, constables, and Sam Lewis, road overseer. At the election in April, 1870, the following officers were elected: Newton Connor, trustee; J. L. Williams, clerk; Calvin Tracy, treasurer; G. P. Peters and G. J. Connor, justices of the peace; William Hanson and W. F. Hamman, constables. Within the next two months all of the territory, excepting township 32, range 19, which had theretofore been embraced in Labette township, was detached therefrom, and formed into other municipal townships. All the officers last elected resided within the territory thus detached, which left Labette township without any officers or organization. The last of June or fore part of July, 1870, a meeting of the citizens was held on the premises of John Alspaw, on the southwest quarter of section 15, and the following persons selected for township officers: Calvin Tracy, trustee; John Caldwell, clerk; William Collins, treasurer; William Hamman and Silas Rich, justices of the peace; John J. Miles and George Tracy, constables. It was decided to ask that the name of the township be changed from Labette to Mound. On July 11, 1870, the action of this meeting was presented to the commissioners. The request for a change of name for the township was refused, as the board considered they had no authority to change the name of the township. The officers selected at the citizens' meeting were appointed in part, and some of the offices seem to have been left vacant.

#### LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

The settlement of this township commenced early in the spring of 1866. The first person whom I have been able to trace to this

township is David C. Lowe, who settled on the southeast quarter of section 34, and about the same time James Springer on the northeast quarter of the same section, and William Springer, Jr., on the southeast quarter of section 27. After these the following settlements were made: James Shelledy, John V. and James Lewis, ——— Latham, Enos Reed, James F. Molesworth, William Keiger, and Ed. Mercer. In June A. W. Richardson bought from William Springer, Jr., the claim on which he had settled, paying therefor \$400. Mr. Springer had at the time some four or five acres broken out and planted to corn and garden truck. Rev. G. W. Richardson at the same time bought from Mr. Shelledy his claim to the northwest quarter of section 27, paying therefor \$50. In December of this year G. P. Peters settled on the southwest quarter of section 36, and John Elliott on the southeast quarter of the same section. In the fall of 1867 Dr. W. J. Conner made his settlement in this township, and commenced the practice of his profession.

#### CELEBRATION.

On July 4, 1867, the first celebration in the township was held, on the claim of David C. Lowe. Wagon-boxes were turned upside down for tables; Samuel Cherry read the Declaration of Independence, and Elihu Greene delivered the oration. The drinking water was cooled with ice which G. P. Peters procured at Oswego.

#### BUSINESS.

The first business in the township was a store conducted by William and John Conner. It was located on section 35, which had been selected for the site of Neola, and was opened in the spring of 1868. Early in 1867 G. P.



Peters commenced running a blacksmith shop at his home, and in the spring of 1868 built a shop at Neola, on section 35. There was no other business aside from farming until Labette was started, in 1870.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Township 32, range 20, originally formed a part of Labette township, and was detached therefrom and organized into a municipal township on May 20, 1870, on the petition of Enos Reed and 51 other citizens. The following officers were appointed: Samuel Lewis, treasurer; William R. Williams, clerk; R. W. Campbell, constable; Samuel T. Cherry was recommended for appointment as justice of the peace.

#### CARE OF STOCK.

The commissioners made an order on July 27th, on the petition of T. D. Bickham and 68 other residents of the township, restraining stock from running at large in the night-time for five years, excepting during the months of January and February.

#### RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

In 1868 the Methodists commenced holding services at the house of James F. Molesworth, on section 8; the ministers in charge of the Oswego circuit preached here.

#### MONTANA TOWNSHIP.

There seems to be no dispute about Samuel J. Short being the first white settler in this township. It is said that he had located here before the war, and was driven off by the rebel Indians, and I am disposed to think that this

is correct; but I shall only refer to his settlement in the summer of 1865. He came, probably the latter part of July, or early in August, and located on the southeast quarter of section 22, on the east side of the Neosho. During that fall a number of parties made settlement in the township, and of these I have learned the following names: Granville Reeves and William White came there the fore part of October, and located on section 34. On October 18th Charles E. Simons and his brother, Benjamin F. Simons, arrived, and located, the former on the southwest quarter of section 4 and the latter on the northwest quarter of section 9. Charles Simons at once went back and brought his family, arriving with them on his claim November 18th. John and William Olford and Andrew Hammond also arrived in October. In November Nathan D. Tower settled on the southwest quarter of section 27, but the next summer moved to the southeast quarter of section 30. Samuel Dunham located on section 29; Nelson Shipley on section 28; Charles Stewart on section 27; Samuel Coffield on section 27; Samuel and Jonathan Wilcox on section 16, the former on the east and the latter on the west side of the river; John Modisett on section 4. In December John Halford settled on the southwest quarter of section 16, and Mr. Lee on section 33. On December 24th Julius S. Waters arrived, and camped on Mr. Simon's claim, but soon thereafter located on section 33, in Neosho township; subsequently, however, he came back, and was for a long time a resident of Montana township. It will thus be seen that at the close of 1865 the township had quite a body of settlers, most of whom became permanent residents, and several of whom are still residing there.

Of those who came in 1866 I shall only

attempt to mention, a few. Dr. D. D. McGrath settled on the southwest quarter of section 4; Nehemiah Sage on the northwest quarter of section 8; Uriah Davis on the southwest quarter of section 7; Frank and Albert Brockus on the northeast quarter of section 20; R. S. Cornish on the southwest quarter of section 21; Robert Haggard on section 30; Bergen Van Ness on the northeast quarter of section 16; Alfred W. Jones on the northeast quarter of section 17. In December John S. Anderson located on the southwest quarter of section 8; Vincent Anderson on the southeast quarter of section 6; and Terry Anderson on the northeast quarter of section 7.

#### SAWMILL.

About the first of February, 1867, the Anderson brothers brought a sawmill and located it upon C. E. Simons' claim, on section 4, and by the middle of the month had it in operation. From the lumber sawed here it is claimed the first frame house in the county was built.

#### SORGHUM MILL.

At quite an early day R. S. Cornish put up a sorghum mill on his place, and for a number of years has carried on quite an extensive business in making sorghum for himself and his neighbors. He also raises a great many melons.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Montana township was laid off as it now exists at the time of dividing the county into precincts prior to its first election. There is no record of the formation of this township prior to November 21, 1867, when in the di-

vision of the county into townships it was ordered that "Montana township No. 2 shall include town 32, range 21." George Bennett, who resided in Montana township, was appointed justice of the peace June 8, 1866, by the Governor, and was the first civil officer in the county. I can find no record in any way referring to its officers for 1867, but it is probable A. W. Jones was its first trustee. At the election held April 5, 1868, C. B. Woodford was elected trustee; T. M. Brockus, clerk; D. Shultz, treasurer; Henry M. Minor and James Livesay, justices of the peace; John Livesay and Jonathan Wilcox, constables; and A. Warlow, road overseer.

#### OSWEGO TOWNSHIP.

1865.

The first settlers in Oswego township were Austin T. Dickerman and Samuel W. Collins, who located on section 31, Mr. Dickerman on the northwest quarter, and Mr. Collins on the southwest quarter, on July 15, 1865. In August Jabez Zink settled on the northwest quarter of section 30, and in September Norris Harrer on section 19. The next settlement in the township was on what is now the townsite of Oswego, and is spoken of in connection with the history of Oswego city.

In November, 1865, D. M. Clover and C. C. Clover rode ponies from Kansas City, crossing the Neosho at Trotter's ford, and arriving at Little Town about the middle of the month. There they found Clinton Rexford and N. P. Elsbree encamped, but no start yet made toward the erection of any building. They looked over the country for a few days, and on November 20, 1866, took four claims—one for each of them, and one each for D. W. Clover and John Clover. D. M. Clover's.



FIRST COUNTY JAIL.  
ERECTED 1869.



claim was located on the southeast quarter of section 10; C. C. Clover the northeast quarter of section 15. In taking his claim C. C. Clover had in view the establishment of a mill, and selected this place as affording the best water power he was able to find along the river. About the first of December they started back for their families, provisions, and material. D. M. Clover went only as far as Fort Scott, where he bought oxen and wagons, with which he returned to their claims and commenced getting out logs for houses. C. C. Clover went back to Iowa, where he purchased material for a sawmill and laid in a supply of groceries and provisions.

In November or December, 1865, about the time the Clovers located, W. C. Watkins settled on section 4, and two of the Kingsbury boys located in the southwest part of the township.

1866.

In January 1866, C. C. Clover and his brother, John R. Clover, together with H. A. Victor and one or two others, started from Iowa for this county, having three wagons with two horses each. They left Oskaloosa, Iowa, about the middle of January, and got to Oswego about the 10th of February. They found snow all the way down to Kansas City, but from there down to Oswego had pleasant weather and good roads. D. M. Clover had already commenced the construction of houses on each of the claims. That season Mr. Clover commenced the construction of a dam across the Neosho at a point some distance above the present dam, and about where the river makes the bend to the east. He did not succeed in getting his mill in operation until the fore part of 1868.

In the spring of 1866 John Clover went

back to Iowa, and in July of that year again arrived in Oswego, having with him his father and mother, D. W. Clover and wife, James Stice, Wiley Jackson, ——— Mason, John Burgess and David Stanfield. They located in the southeastern part of the township, some of them on the river and some on the prairie. On August 6th Cloyd G. Braught settled on the southwest quarter of section 34, and in September Simeon Holbrook on section 3 and Randal Bagby on section 5, and in October Lewis W. Crain on section 4. On November 9th William Herbaugh and Moses B. Jacobs arrived; the former located north and the latter south of the town-site.

1867.

About November 1, 1867, C. Montague settled on the southwest quarter of section 5, and on November 11th F. Swanwick bought the claim of W. C. Watkins and located on section 4.

#### CELEBRATION.

On July 4, 1866, the settlers of this part of the county assembled at Oswego and held their first celebration.

#### MILL.

Capt. Clover had some of the machinery here for his mill in the spring of 1866, but it took so long to build the dam across the Neosho that he did not get it running till 1868. The first mill to be put in operation in the township was brought here November 9, 1866, by M. B. Jacobs, but he did not get it started till the spring of 1867. It was located on his claim, just south of town. It was thought better to haul the logs from the woods to the

mill on the prairie and thus have the lumber where it could be procured easily, than to locate the mill in the woods and thus cause the lumber to be hauled out over the muddy bottoms.

#### ORGANIZATION.

This township from the first has had the same territory as is now included within its limits. It was organized at the time of the division of the county into precincts for the first election. The first official record of its organization now to be found is the order of the commissioners made November 21, 1867, dividing the county into townships, in which they ordered that "Oswego township, No. 3, shall include town 33, R. 21." The first officer in this township was C. H. Talbott, who was appointed justice of the peace by the Governor in the fall of 1866. He seems to have appointed Andy Kaho constable, to serve whatever process was issued by him. These were probably the only civil officers of the township prior to its organization. I have not been able to learn the names of all the officers who were elected in April, 1867. D. W. Clover was one of the justices of the peace elected at that time, and probably J. F. Newlon was the other; Andy Kaho was elected constable. On April 5, 1868, the following officers were elected: R. W. Wright, trustee; S. Reardon, clerk; Norris Harrer, treasurer; R. J. Elliott and J. F. Newlon, justices of the peace; A. Kaho and F. D. Howe, constables; Ephriam Shanks, road overseer.

#### FAIRVIEW TOWNSHIP.

As far as I have been able to learn, but two parties had settled in this township prior to 1866. Francis Wall settled on the south-

west quarter of section 10, and Mr. Allen on the northwest quarter of section 13, in the fall of 1865.

During the year 1866 a number of parties came into the township. Early in the spring William Springer settled on the southwest quarter of section 2, M. V. B. Coffin on the northwest quarter of section 3, and William Cline on the northwest quarter of section 4. James Logan came in March, and located on the northwest quarter of section 11, and James M. Logan on the southeast quarter of the same section. In May Charles Wadsack settled on the northwest quarter of section 12, and Frederick and Ernest Wadsack in the same vicinity. In June John Richardson bought Mr. Springer's claim for \$200, to which he moved from the claim taken in Liberty township, and where he has since made his home.

Among those who made settlement during 1867 were W. S. Park, James Dike, S. H. Spurr and Charles Kelso. Mr. Spurr bought J. M. Logan's claim, and the latter settled on the northeast quarter of section 16.

#### INDUSTRIES.

M. V. B. Coffin was the first blacksmith in the township; he opened a shop at his home soon after settling there in the spring of 1866. He had been a soldier with Kit Carson, was a good workman, and had a good run of business. He died in January, 1867; Mr. Peters bought his tools. In 1867 J. M. Logan constructed a wooden mill for grinding cane, of which he and his neighbors raised quite large patches. He made a large amount of sorghum molasses.

#### ORGANIZATION.

In the original division of the county, what is known as Fairview township formed a part



of Labette. On the application of A. S. Spaulding, Frank Williams, J. R. Sweet and some 50 other electors, the commissioners, on April 26, 1870, made an order organizing township 33, range 20, into a municipal township with the name of Fairview, and fixing the voting-place of the township at the office of Dr. A. S. Spaulding, on section 21. The following officers were appointed to serve until April, 1871: I. W. Patrick trustee; W. W. Babbitt, clerk; A. S. Spaulding, treasurer; W. H. Umbarger and John Robinson, constables. A. S. Potter and James Paxon were recommended for appointment as justices of the peace.

#### STOCK.

On May 20, 1870, the commissioners, on a petition therefor, made an order that stock be not allowed to run at large in the night-time, for the term of three years.

#### MOUNT PLEASANT TOWNSHIP.

W. F. Hamman was the first settler in this township. He erected his house upon the northwest quarter of section 2 in April, 1869. Soon thereafter Mr. Moray located upon the northeast quarter of section 11. In July E. A. Wait and his brother, A. H. Wait, settled on section 12, and Henry C. McClelland on the southwest quarter of section 14. A little later in the season the northwest part of the township was settled. Benjamin H. Greer, George Greer, James Armstrong and Lewis C. Hill were the first settlers in this part of the township.

#### RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

In the fall of 1869 A. W. King, of Osage township, commenced preaching at the houses

of Benjamin Greer and Lewis Hill. Services were kept up at private houses with more or less regularity until the Pioneer schoolhouse was built, when they were held there. They were principally conducted by Methodist preachers in charge of the Timber Hill circuit.

#### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

When Mr. Moray and his wife were camped upon their claim above referred to, before they had their house erected, the first child in the township was born to them. On October 1, 1869, W. F. Hamman lost his son Henry, which was the first death in the township. The first marriage in the township was that of George R. Greer and Mary A. Hill.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Mount Pleasant township was originally a part of Labette township. On May 20, 1870, G. W. Moray and 60 other electors petitioned for the organization of township 33, range 19, into a municipal township, which petition the board granted and named the township Mount Pleasant. Thereupon the board appointed the following officers: H. C. McClelland, trustee; Walter Downing, clerk; Henry Story, treasurer; Florence Hamman and C. E. Woodin, constables. Ezra A. Wait and John Hamblin were recommended for justices of the peace, and they were afterward appointed.

#### CARE OF STOCK.

On June 23, 1870, on a petition of its citizens the board made an order restraining the running at large of stock in the night-time for a period of five years.

## CANADA TOWNSHIP.

On January 23, 1867, Alexander and Milton Duncan located on section 7, township 34, range 18, and were the first settlers in what is now Canada township. A little later in the season Jonathan Hill settled on section 28, Gresham Gokey on section 29, and sometime during the year John Nellis, J. Roberts, George Mays and Lewis Scott settled in the township. John McNeal came in October, 1868. I do not find the names of other settlers prior to those who came in the spring of 1869. During this year quite a large immigration came into the township, among whom may be mentioned H. Hedemann, D. M. Pitt, J. F. Walford, H. A. Linn, William Walters, David Ross, Howard Phenis and sons, John Phillips, Mrs. Mary Price, Ola Olson.

Mr. Phenis and his sons had a shingle-mill, in 1869, on section 32, from which they supplied the settlers in that neighborhood with shingles for their cabins.

The first child born in the township was Milton Duncan, son of Alexander Duncan, on February 12, 1868. The first death was that of an old man named Munk.

## ORGANIZATION.

In the absence of any record I take the statement of Mr. Dickerman, who was then county clerk, that, of the nine precincts into which the county was divided, in March, 1867, by the commissioners appointed for its organization, the southwest part was called Pumpkin Creek. No election was held therein at the first election for county officers. When the commissioners met and organized, on June 5, 1867, they made an order for the organization of the two west precincts, in which it was

provided that "Canada township shall include 33 and 34, range 18, and the west half of the 33 and 34, range 19, and as far west as the county line." This is the first official record we have relating to this township, or giving it a name. It was not until October 21, 1867, that a voting-precinct was designated for the township; at that time it was fixed at J. M. Duncan's. On November 21, 1867, the commissioners made a new order dividing the county into townships, in which it was ordered that "Canada township, No. 9, shall include town 33 and 34,, R. 17 and 18." On April 6, 1868, the north half of township 33, in ranges 17 and 18, was attached to Osage township. The first election in the township was held November 5, 1867, at which J. R. Shippey was elected trustee, J. M. Duncan and G. W. Mays, justices of the peace; John Nellis and John Scoville, constables. The record does not show who the opposing candidates were; but the vote was a tie on justices between Mr. Mays and some one else, and Mr. Mays was successful in the casting of lots for the office. By an order made April 14, 1869, township 35, ranges 17 and 18, was attached to this township.

## PROTECTING CROPS.

On May 27, 1871, on the petition of E. B. Baldwin and 42 others, the commissioners made an order restraining stock from running at large in the night-time for a term of two years.

## HOWARD TOWNSHIP.

The first settler in what is now Howard township was John Kennedy, who located on the southwest quarter of section 12, township 35, range 17, in 1867.

The settlement of this township fairly commenced in 1869, and among those who located here that year are the following: W. H. Godwin, on the northeast quarter of section 3; Clinton Hawley, on section 2; Jesse McClintock, on the northeast quarter of section 11; E. R. Lee, on the southeast quarter of section 33; Lee Loverage, on the southwest quarter of section 33; W. S. Getzendaner, on section 13, range 17; H. H. Long, on the northeast quarter of section 5.

In March, 1870, E. B. Baldwin located upon the northeast quarter of section 2, and during the same season settlements were made by William Blackford on the southwest quarter of section 4, ——— Scott on the southeast quarter of section 24, B. W. Harwood on the northwest quarter of section 10, George McKee on the southeast quarter of section 10, David McKee on the southwest quarter of section 14, J. M. Hart on the northwest quarter of section 11, Dana H. Fuller and Aldin Fuller on section 4, Banks Hall and John W. Hall on section 13, D. Smallwood on section 1, Frank Pfister on section 7.

On March 5, 1871, W. J. Millikin took the southeast quarter of section 22, and sometime during the season, some early in the spring and some not till fall, settlements were made by P. B. Clark on the northwest quarter of section 24, Samuel Smith on the northwest quarter of section 12, James Bennett on the northeast quarter of section 20, Walter Bennett on the northwest quarter of section 29, William Reasor on the southeast quarter, John Reasor on the northwest quarter, and George H. Goodwin on the northeast quarter of section 27. James Steel took the southwest quarter, William Steel the northwest quarter, Boon Thompson the southeast quarter, and J. K.

Russell the northeast quarter of section 23; John Vance the southwest quarter and Christian Lieb the northeast quarter of section 24; Lincoln Clark, and William and John High section 1. W. M. Mabrey located on the southwest quarter of section 11, in range 17.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The territory of which I am now speaking was a part of Canada township until after the spring election of 1872. At that election the opposing candidates for justice of the peace were J. M. Hart and H. H. Long, both residing in what is now Howard township. The vote between them being a tie, lots were cast resulting in the choice of Mr. Hart, who thereby became the first officer of the new township. On April 5, 1872, E. B. Baldwin presented the petition of himself and 81 other electors asking the commissioners for the formation of a new township, embracing all the territory in ranges 17 and 18 lying south of the line running east and west through the middle of township 34, leaving three tiers of sections in township 34 in the old township, and putting three tiers of section in township 34 and all of fractional township 35 in the new township. This petition was granted, and the order of the commissioners made creating said territory into a municipal township, which they named Howard in honor of the county clerk. Thereupon the following officers were appointed for the township thus organized: E. B. Baldwin, trustee; William J. Millikin, clerk; Joseph Buckley, treasurer; J. J. Breeding, constable. Mr. Buckley failed to qualify, and the commissioners soon thereafter appointed William Blackford treasurer in his place.

## BUSINESS.

There have been several places in the township at different times where small stores have been conducted. Capt. J. W. Hall started a store on his premises in the summer of 1870, which he conducted only a short time. W. H. Godwin and F. W. Noblett kept a small stock of groceries at the Dora postoffice. The town of Willeyville, afterward called Deerton, while it existed was in this township, and the business houses in operation there have been spoken of in connection with that name.

## INCIDENTS.

John McClintock and Nettie Smallwood, on December 22, 1872, were joined in marriage, being the first couple married in the township, and the marriage of H. F. Jones and Mary McClintock followed some two or three weeks later. Among the first births in the township were sons in the families of W. J. McClintock and D. H. McKee, in the summer of 1870, and on August 15, 1870, a daughter, Julia A., to Colonel Baldwin and wife. A son of G. B. McKee was injured by falling into a well, from which he died; this was the first death in the township, and I understand that B. W. Harwood, who was murdered on August 15, 1872, was the second person who died in the township.

## ELM GROVE TOWNSHIP.

The first party to locate in Elm Grove township was William Bowen, who took his claim on sections 3 and 10 early in the spring of 1867, the old settlers say, although no one whom I have met is able to fix the date of his settlement. Probably the next settlers in the

township were R. P. and Amas Totten, who located on section 10, as it is thought, in the summer of 1867. A few parties made settlement here in 1868. Madison Sharp came in June and located on the northeast quarter of section 13, although he did not bring his family until the following February. At the same time Thomas Sharp located on the southeast quarter of the same section. In 1869 many more families came in. C. M. Keeler located on same section with William Bowen, Daniel McIntyre on the southwest quarter of section 12, Joseph Gray on the northeast quarter of section 3, A. J. Moler on the southwest quarter of section 13, James Woodville on section 12, in township 35. Wesley Faurot came July 29th this year, and settled in the extreme southeast corner of the township; Harvey Jones also settled in the southern part of the township. In July C. B. Pratt took the northwest quarter of section 3, in township 35, and opened thereon the first store in the township; he was appointed postmaster of the postoffice at that point, which was called Ripon. In October Dr. D. P. Lucas settled on the northwest quarter of section 12, in township 35; and during the season Thomas Summerfield settled in the same locality, on the southeast quarter of section 9. Probably still more families whose names I have not mentioned came in this year. The settlement of the southwestern part of the township did not commence until the spring of 1870. In June Peter Shufelt found a small house on the southwest quarter of section 20 which had been put there by some one who had left. He took possession of this and made claim to this quarter, afterward paying the man for his house. Harrison Sword settled on the southwest quarter of section 30, A. J. Lots on the southwest quarter of section 7, Peter Rhodes

on section 18. H. H. Lieb and R. W. Lieb also in that vicinity. During the season Owen Wimmer and sons located on section 29, but did not bring their families until the spring of 1871; Alfred Elliott located on the northwest quarter of section 30. In 1871, Junius, Peter and Lewis Goodwin settled on section 31.

#### ORGANIZATION.

By the division first made, what is now Elm Grove township was a part of Canada and Hackberry townships. After November 21, 1867, until its organization by itself, it formed a part of Hackberry township only. On July 27, 1870, W. H. Bowen and 55 others having petitioned therefor, the commissioners made an order for the organization of townships 34 and 35, in range 19, into a municipal township, with the name of Elm Grove; and on July 29th appointed the following officers: D. McIntyre, trustee; John Lane, clerk; John Freeman, treasurer; Charles Ballard and S. Bentley, constables; and recommended W. H. Bowen and T. H. Noslen for appointment as justices of the peace.

#### STOCK.

On April 12, 1871, upon a petition of its citizens, the commissioners ordered that stock be prohibited from running at large in the night-time for the term of three years.

#### OMITTED.

This township had the misfortune not to be named in the apportionment of 1871, and it was not until 1873 that it was made a part of any legislative district.

#### CEMETERY.

In the fall of 1869 James M. Woodfill died, and was the first person to be buried in the cemetery then started on section 12, in the south part of the township. His wife Sarah soon followed him, and was the second to be interred in this cemetery.

#### HACKBERRY TOWNSHIP.

A few parties settled in this township in the fall of 1865. James Moss, Robert Hastings and Mr. Cawthorn located on section 1, Mr. Henderson on section 12, and Mr. Chandler near by. A few more parties came in the following year, and among them Mr. Redfield, who settled on the northwest quarter of section 1, Luman Reed on the northeast quarter of section 25, and Robert Gill on section 22. Many settlers came in 1867, commencing early in the spring and continuing to arrive during the summer. In June Gilbert A. and J. T. Cooper located on the south half of section 14, and about the same time Alexander Bishop settled on the northwest quarter and Jerry Strickler on the northeast quarter of the same section; William Newcomb settled on section 11, and Henry G. Pore on section 12. In July George W. Franklin and L. C. Howard located on section 2; William Sullivan, Robert Johnson, Abner DeCou, Benjamin Hiatt, James Sloan, Walter Pratt and Caleb Phillips came sometime during the year. It is possible that some of the parties named came in 1866 instead of 1867. Elder Cooper settled on section 8 early in 1868, and was the first Baptist minister in that vicinity. In October William Hannigan bought the northwest quarter of section 9 from Cal. Watkins, who

had taken it sometime previous thereto. About the same time Martin Jackson, Aaron Young and Mordecai Ramsey came in. In February, 1869, D. C. Constant settled on the southeast quarter of section 18; on March 9th G. W. Jenkins on the northeast quarter of section 33; and in July J. L. Jones on the northwest quarter of section 5, township 35.

#### ORGANIZATION.

In the first division of the county, Hackberry township included township 34, range 20, and the east half of range 19. By the new division, on November 21, 1867, it was ordered that "Hackberry township, No. 5, shall include town 34. R. 19 and 20." On April 14, 1869, township 35, lying in these ranges, was attached as a part of the township. The first election in the township was held at the time of the election of the first county officers, April 22, 1867, but there is no record of the result. At the election held April 7, 1868, the following officers were elected: G. W. Franklin, trustee; William Johnson, clerk; H. G. Pore, treasurer; L. C. Howard and D. M. Bender, justices of the peace; D. Day and William Hiatt, constables; and William E. Pratt, road overseer.

#### CARE OF STOCK.

October 4, 1869, the residents having petitioned therefor, the board ordered that stock be not allowed to run at large in the nighttime for the period of five years.

#### RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

The first settlement of this township has been spoken of in another part of this work. It may be said to have been the first part of

the county settled by the whites, but the settlement was entirely broken up in 1863. The settlement as it now exists commenced in the fall of 1865. Among those who came that season were Thomas King, who settled on the northeast quarter of section 18, William Busby on the northwest quarter of section 17, William Puitt on the southeast quarter of section 7, Zephaniah Woolsey on the southeast quarter of section 27; a man by the name of Baker and his three sons, Berry, John and William, and two sons-in-law, Dotson and Maxwell, along Labette Creek on sections 22, 23 and 26; G. W. Yandel and his sons-in-law, David Lewellin and Chas. A. Rankin, came in November, 1865, and took claims, but did not bring their families until the following spring. These parties and also Mr. Yandal's son, Columbus, settled on sections 6, 7 and 8. About the same time George W. Kingsbury settled on section 6.

During 1866 many parties came into the township, some coming early in the spring and others later in the season. In the spring the Rice brothers, Benjamin, John and James, John Green, Orville Thompson, John W. Wiley, Gilbert Martin, Samuel Braught, Allen Barnes, Mancil Garret, Lorenzo Braught, James Smith, and perhaps others, settled in the northeastern part of the township north of Labette. In May S. R. Southwick settled on the northeast quarter of section 29, William Shay on the southeast quarter of section 20, John Kinney and sons on the northwest quarter of section 28, George Lane on the southwest quarter of section 28, Abraham Ewers on the southwest quarter of section 31. In June Samuel Gregory settled on the southeast quarter of section 26, and in August Mr. Yunker on the southwest quarter of section 29, and Mr. Bedicker on the northeast quarter of



section 32. On August 12th Franklin Asbell bought the northeast quarter of section 18 from Thomas King and became a permanent settler thereon. On October 10th David U. Watson settled on the southwest quarter of section 21, and John N. Watson on the southeast quarter of section 29; about the same time Marshall J. Lee settled north of Labette Creek, Milton Helm on the northeast quarter of section 29, and Riley Hawkins on the southwest quarter of section 20; Stephen Bright bought the southwest quarter of section 7 from Woolsey; John and Cass Steel settled on section 8, Salina Grant on the northwest quarter of section 30.

On January 1, 1867, Moses Powers located on the northwest quarter of section 21; in April Isaac Butterworth bought the northwest quarter of section 30 from Salina Grant, and made his home thereon.

#### BUSINESS.

The first store in the township, aside from those located in Chetopa, was kept by Orville Thompson, a little north of Labette Creek, on the east road leading from Oswego to Chetopa; it was started in the spring of 1866. Soon after this the town of Labette was started, on the Neosho.

#### DRAINAGE.

For many years a large part of the land south of the Labette was covered with water so great a portion of the year that it was practically of little use. In 1882 a ditch was dug, draining this swamp into the Neosho, thereby making a large tract of land capable of cultivation.

#### CEMETERY.

In April, 1874, John F. Hill deeded three acres of land in section 9, on which the Pleasant Valley Cemetery was laid out; George Gennoa was the first person buried therein. This cemetery has been nicely improved and quite extensively used.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The commissioners appointed for the organization of the county in laying it off into precincts constituted township 34, range 21, a township, which they named Chetopa. The first official reference we have to this township is on July 2, 1867, when it was "Ordered, that the township called Chetopa, the southern township of Labette county, be changed according to the request of the petitioners, to be called Richland township hereafter." On November 21, 1867, in dividing the county into townships, the commissioners ordered that "Richland township, No. 4 shall include town 34, R. 21." While we have no record showing the names of the persons who were elected officers at the election held April 22, 1867, we soon thereafter find J. N. Watson acting as justice of the peace. He resigned on October 23, and on November 19 the commissioners appointed G. H. English, and two days later they also appointed William H. Reed justice of the peace. On April 7, 1868, the following officers were elected: Robert Steel, trustee; R. B. Wallan, clerk; Daniel Quinby, treasurer; George Kincade and B. B. Baker, justices of the peace; J. W. Wiley and A. P. Kinkade, constables; Allison Hasty, road overseer. On April 14, 1869, an order of the commissioners was made attaching township 35, range 21, to Richland township.

## TOWNS AND CITIES

---

### PROPOSED TOWNS.—“IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.”

#### LABETTE.

No less than three towns christened Labette have been started in this county. The first of the three was located in the fall of 1866, by Gilbert Martin, on the banks of the Neosho, in section 14, Richland township. In 1867 Mr. Martin put in a sawmill, to which was attached a set of corn buhrs. The mill got quite a trade at this point. A store building was erected by L. D. Bovee, for Mr. Smith, who put in a stock of groceries. This building was afterward sold to School District No. 3, and was moved from its location on the town-site to the public road, where it now stands, and is still in use as a school-house. Another building was erected, for R. G. Tileston, who put in quite a large amount of groceries. In January, 1868, Martin, Tileston and Bovee put up quite a quantity of ice fully eight inches thick. With the cold weather of the spring and winter of 1867 and 1868 the hopes of this town vanished, and during the spring all of its business was moved away.

The second town of this name was located on parts of sections 20 and 21, in Richland township, just south of Labette Creek. In May, 1868, a number of parties, among whom were G. A. Cooper, R. G. Tileston, L. D. Bovee, Allen Barnes, Gilbert Martin and Isaac Butterworth, formed themselves into a com-

pany for the purpose of laying out this town, and on June 18 their charter was filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Mr. Tileston put up quite a large two-story building, and removed his stock of groceries from the former town of Labette, lying to the northeast of this, and added thereto so that he had quite a respectable store. Moses Powers had a blacksmith shop, and quite a number of parties built small dwelling-houses; so that during the summer of 1868 there were probably 12 to 20 buildings of all descriptions on the town-site. The town was also known by the name of Soresco as well as by the name of Labette. Its proprietors supposed that they were in the line where the M. K. & T. Ry. would necessarily be located. With the close of 1868 the prospects of an important town being built up at this point disappeared. Mr. Tileston became interested in Chetopa, to which point he moved his stock of groceries, leaving his store building, however, as a watch-tower in the desert to mark the spot which had been the scene of so many bright anticipations.

#### DAYTON.

The town of Labette having been started in the southeastern part of Liberty township it was thought by some that a more desirable location for a town would be farther up La-

bette Creek, and in May, 1870, J. F. Newlon, E. K. Currant, Peterson Cherry, W. H. Porter and a number of others became incorporated, the charter being filed June 20, 1870, and a town-site was selected upon the west bank of the Labette, below the mouth of Bachelor Creek, on sections 9 and 16, township 32, range 20. But few houses were ever erected on the town-site. William H. and John I. Sipple put up a fair store building and opened up a store. E. K. Currant put up a building and opened a branch of his main store, which was at Montana. There were two or three other business houses. In November following the town was moved to Parsons.

### JACKSONVILLE.

This town was located in four counties, but principally in Neosho county. It embraced, however, a part of section 3, township 31, range 21, in Labette county. On December 23, 1867, a paper purporting to be a charter for the incorporation of the town was filed in the office of the Secretary of State, but there was no pretense of complying with the law. On January 23, 1868, a new charter was filed. Among the incorporators were William Logan, G. D. Dement, David Evans and Samuel Correll. After the first two or three years there was little left to indicate what this town once was.

### CHERRYVILLE.

On January 30, 1869, the charter for the town of Cherryville, incorporating James H. Beggs, James McMains, John Oliphant and others, was filed in the office of the Secretary of State. The town was to be located on the south half of section 12, township 32, range

17. The proprietors seem to have soon become satisfied that they were not going to be able to build up a town at this point, and concluded to abandon it.

### VERBENA.

A town with this name was proposed to be located on section 13, township 32, range 17, in Osage township. R. D. Hartsorn, John W. Claspill, W. O. Hartsorn, Lionel A. Whitney and Samuel C. Hockett were charter members of the town company. The charter was filed with the Secretary of State June 16, 1869.

### KINGSBURY.

The above name was chosen for a town that was to have been located on the northeast quarter of section 30, in Osage township, if the line of the L. L. & G. R. R. had run through that quarter as it was expected to. Mr. Kingsbury, one of the surveying party, assured the owners of claims in that vicinity that the road would surely be located on that line. Perhaps it would have been had not the general course of the road been changed so as to pass through Montgomery instead of Labette county. On the strength of these assurances a town company was organized, of which W. H. Carpenter was president and L. F. Dick, secretary. When the line of the railroad was located west of them the project of building this town was abandoned.

### TIMBER HILL.

A company consisting of Alexander W. King, Mahlon A. King, J. H. Beatty and others was incorporated April 12, 1869, for the purpose of laying off the town of Timber

Hill. It was located on the south half of the northeast quarter and the north half of the southeast quarter of section 34, township 31, range 18. About the middle of September, 1869, George W. Blake and William Blake opened a store at this place; they continued to sell goods till the spring of 1871, when they closed and moved on their farms.

#### BIG HILL.

Joseph McCormick, David Stanfield, John A. Helpingstine, Thomas Harrison and Jesse Bishop became incorporated February 22, 1870, for the purpose of laying off the town of Big Hill, on parts of sections 23 and 24, township 32, range 17.

#### NEOLA.

Was intended to cover 320 acres in section 35, township 32, and section 2, township 33, both in range 20. Gilbert Martin, John N. Watson, David C. Lowe, Julius S. Waters, Chas. A. Kelso, Benjamin A. Rice and others became incorporated for the purpose of laying off the town. The charter for the same was filed in the office of the Secretary of State December 24, 1867. By the most liberal construction of its language it can hardly be said to contain any of the statutory requirements for a charter, but it is probable that this is not the reason why the town never succeeded in acquiring any more growth than one store and a blacksmithshop.

#### ELSTON.

On September 8, 1869, there was filed in the office of Secretary of State a charter incorporating John Elston, John T. Weaver and

others into the Elston Town Company, for the purpose of laying off a town on section 6, township 33, range 20. During that summer this town had quite a growth. The parties composing this company were men of some means, who came from Johnson county and wanted to build a town nearer the center of the county than any other town had then been located with the avowed purpose of making it the county-seat. They erected quite a large hotel and a number of store buildings, and for a time had considerable trade, and the town seemed to be on the road to prosperity, but its growth was of short duration, and in a few years not a single building remained to mark the site of this once ambitious place.

#### KINGSTON.

Kingston was located on sections 31 and 32, in township 34, and sections 5 and 6, in township 35, range 19. It was started in the summer of 1877 by the erection of a flour mill by Eastwood & Reamer. Soon after Mr. Jones started a blacksmith shop; Thomas Bruner put in a drug store; Aaron Humes a broom factory; Anderson & Weaver a general merchandise store; C. W. Campbell was postmaster, as well as physician; S. E. Ball was the only lawyer. In 1879 the engine was sold out of the mill, and thereafter was not put in again. The place continued more or less prosperous until the construction of the railroad through the southern portion of the county, in 1886, when it was abandoned and united with Edna.

#### DEERTON.

Named from the abundance of deer that were found in that vicinity by the early settlers. It was located by the Willie brothers

on the north half of section 20, township 34, range 18, on the line between Howard and Canada townships. The first store in Deerton was opened in 1880, by Aaron Humes, who was soon after appointed postmaster. Charles M. Keeler next followed with another store

of general merchandise. Blacksmith shops, a wood-worker and a broom factory were among the industries of this town. On the completion of the railroad through Howard township, in the fall of 1886, the town was all moved to Valeda.

### CITIES, TOWNS AND STATIONS AS AT PRESENT EXISTING.

#### ANGOLA.

C. H. Kimball, Lee Clark and others filed a charter in the office of the Secretary of State November 29, 1886, authorizing them to lay off a town-site and dispose of lots on the northeast quarter of section 8, township 34, range 18. The plat was filed February 12, 1887, acknowledged by Lee Clark, president of the town company. There has never been much growth—only two or three business houses of any kind, and the stock-yards.

#### PENFIELD

Is a station on the P. & P. Ry., located on the northeast quarter of section 27, township 33, range 18. This location was formerly called Barton.

#### WILSONTON

Is located on the line of the Parsons & Pacific Ry., on sections 16 and 17, in Labette township. It was surveyed in August, 1887. The first store was started in the spring of 1888, by Samuel Jameston. Mrs. Ella B. Wilson is proprietor of the town, and has devoted

much energy to its development and upbuilding. It has received its principal amount of advertising by the distribution of the *Wilson-ton Journal*, which is published here.

#### IDENBORO

Is a station on the Parsons & Pacific Railroad south of Parsons.

#### MORTIMER

Was laid out by Emanuel Mortimer, on the north half of the northeast quarter of section 25, township 31, range 17. The plat was filed January 7, 1883.

#### DENNIS.

The first house in Dennis was the railroad depot, erected in the fall of 1880. In the spring of 1881 William Current put up a store building, in which he placed a stock of groceries; this was the first store in town. John Webb and John Milligan put in another store in the spring of 1882, their stock consisting of general merchandise. A second stock of

general merchandise was put in by W. H. Thorne, in the fall of 1883. Mr. Thorne also put in a corn elevator and shipped grain, and put up the first substantial residence house in town. Subsequently John Mason put in a harness shop, L. Pedan a lumber yard, Wm. Cline a drug store, J. L. Wilson a hardware store, and Nelson Dunn a livery stable. The first hotel was put up by Mr. Acre, in the summer of 1885. It was not till December 21, 1883, that the plat of the town was filed in the office of the register of deeds, locating the town on sections 14 and 15, on the line of the Gulf Railroad, in Osage township. Lee Wilson was born to L. J. Wilson and wife December 24, 1884,—the first child born in town. Two newspapers have been started in Dennis, but neither was able to maintain an existence, and they were moved away. One of the substantial business plants of this town is its flouring mill.

#### LANEVILLE

Is a station on the Fort Scott & Gulf Railroad, located on the southeast quarter of section 20, in Neosho township. It was started just after the building of the railroad, and has one store.

#### MATTHEWSON.

The plat of this town located it on section 15, township 31, range 21, and was filed in the office of the register of deeds April 30, 1879. The first house in Matthewson was built in the spring of 1879, by William Downs; in this he had his residence, the store and post-office. The next store building was put up by G. W. Watson and C. Hamilton, who put in a fair stock of goods and did a good business until McCune was started, when they moved

to that town, leaving but one store house in Matthewson.

#### STOVER.

Is a station on the "Frisco," located on section 15, in Fairview township. The only business that has been conducted here has been one store, owned by J. N. Santee; a blacksmith shop, by G. W. Brock; and a part of the time H. M. Debolt has run a sawmill, with which he has connected a set of corn buhrs, and has also been engaged in the grain business.

#### BIG HILL

Is a station on the "Frisco" Railroad, in Mound Valley township.

#### STEVENS.

On February 23, 1874, the charter of Stevens was filed in the office of the Secretary of State, incorporating Alfred Large, Jonas Clark, L. M. Bedell and others with authority to locate a town on sections 33 and 34, township 34, range 21. The plat was acknowledged by R. W. Officer, president of the town company, and was filed in March, 1874. A few years ago this place was incorporated as a part of the city of Chetopa.

#### CECIL

Is located on the northwest quarter of section 5, township 35, range 20. In 1869 Mr. Head put in a small stock of general merchandise, which he continued to sell until the fall of 1870, when it was closed. Allen McNeal has had a blacksmith shop since 1871. George Burge opened a store in 1881, which he has continued to conduct up to the present time.



From 1885 to 1887 C. W. Fowler had a store in connection with the postoffice. The Methodists have a church and cemetery at this point.

### MONTANA CITY.

Soon after coming to the county Frank Simons brought a small stock of groceries, which he commenced selling in his cabin. Early in the spring of 1866 he put up a hewed-log house on what was thereafter to be the Montana town-site, but which had not yet been laid off, and in March opened therein a store. This was the first building on the town-site, and this was the first store in the township. Soon thereafter Yates & Fagan built a frame store building on the town-site and put therein a stock of groceries. This is said to have been the first frame building in the county. Soon after this they built a frame residence. The next spring Frank Simons built a frame store building, into which he moved his stock of groceries.

### TOWN COMPANY.

The Montana Town Company had been agreed upon some time previously, but was not incorporated until May 28, 1868. Among those who were members of the company were Levi Seabridge, J. S. Anderson, Henry Minor, S. S. Watson, J. S. Waters and D. M. Watson. S. S. Watson was president and J. S. Waters secretary of the town company. The town was located on section 8, township 32, range 21.

### FERRY.

Abner Furgeson was granted a ferry license on July 11, 1867, and at once he, in connection with Jonah Wilcox, commenced the operation of a ferry across the Neosho near where it is spanned by the iron bridge.

### HOTEL.

In 1868 Henry M. Miner erected a two-story building and opened therein the first hotel in town.

### PHYSICIANS.

D. D. McGrath was the first physician of standing to locate here. He was soon followed by Dr. Frye, and they in turn by Dr. J. M. Mahr, all of whom were good citizens as well as good physicians, and did their part toward building up the place. Doctors Hall, Gapen, Taylor and Keys are among the other physicians who came to the place.

### MILL.

In 1870 W. E. Livesay and J. O. Charles erected, and in the spring of 1871 put in operation, the grist mill which for over a score of years was an important industry of the town. On May 9, 1893, this mill burned to the ground, and the plant has never been renewed.

### MASONIC LODGE.

Evergreen Lodge, A. F. & A. M., numbering 86, was organized about the close of 1870, with 11 charter members. A. W. Swift was the first W. M. After an existence of several years the lodge surrendered its charter.

### IMPROVEMENTS.

In 1868 the town commenced a rapid growth, which was continued during the next two years, and at one time it contained 13 general stores, three hotels, three saloons, two livery stables, two wagon shops, besides a great number of other shops and stores of

various kinds, and a population of not less than 500 people. Failing to get the M. K. & T. Ry., which was built in 1870, and also other projected lines which were intended to pass through her boundaries failing to be built, it was evident that for a time at least she had reached the height of her prosperity; and when the town of Labette sprang up on the line of the railroad but a few miles from her, many of her firms removed their business there, and some of them took with them their business houses. Of the business houses remaining in the town, the larger part were swept away by a fire which occurred on February 28, 1895.

#### RAILROAD FACILITIES.

When the Mineral branch of the M. K. & T. Ry. was built in 1895, it was located between two and three miles south of the town, so that it really furnishes no accommodations.

#### GOVERNMENT.

In 1873 the Legislature passed an act authorizing the town to incorporate as a city of the third class, and in pursuance of its provision an order was made by the district judge, on July 3, 1877, for the incorporation of the city of Montana, and an election ordered for July 14th. At the first election Col. J. J. Woods was elected mayor, E. D. Keirseý police judge, and the following persons members of the council: A. B. Chaplain, G. T. Peak, J. P. Bradfield, Samuel Ballentine, and J. M. Mahr. A pretense of a city government was maintained until 1884. In April, 1883, Martin Wilcox was elected mayor, and was the last person on whom that honor was conferred. It became generally understood that the act authorizing the incorporation was un-

constitutional, and the form of going through an election of officers who had no legal authority to act was abandoned.

#### BARTLETT.

The plat of the town of Bartlett, located on the southwest quarter of section 27, township 34, range 20, acknowledged by Robert A. Bartlett, was filed in the office of the register of deeds, June 5, 1886. The first lot was sold to Jerome Calahan, who erected thereon the first building which was put up on the town-site. It was a two-story frame, in the first story of which he put a general stock of merchandise, which was the first store in town; the upper story was a hall, in which were held religious and other meetings. B. F. Cox built the first dwelling in the town, and started the first blacksmith shop; the second dwelling was erected by H. L. Whiting. In 1891 William Jarrett put in a cider-mill, and in connection with buhrs for grinding meal and feed. The Methodist is the only church building now in town, the Presbyterian church building having been destroyed by fire. Bartlett has grown into a nice trading point and is likely to have considerable more growth.

#### FIRES.

There have been two or three fires that have been quite damaging. In August, 1893, Reece Bros.' store and postoffice; in June, 1896, J. H. Peaver's store; in March, 1899, the Lonaker and Utley buildings, and in August, 1900, two elevators and the Presbyterian church were burned.

#### ELM CITY

Was laid out by Jesse A. Edmundson, on the northwest quarter of section 27, township 34.

range 19, in Elm Grove township, soon after the completion of the railroad through that section, the town plat being acknowledged July 21, 1886. The first building on the town-site was erected by J. F. Shields and J. A. Edmundson, soon after the town was platted, and was occupied by Wilson & Vanbibber with a stock of general merchandise. Brown & Waugh and Smith & Edmundson soon followed with stocks of notions and groceries; Henry Robinett and N. L. Addis opened blacksmith shops; D. Wilson sold furniture. In 1892 the Christian church erected a neat frame building. Quite a large amount of grain has been shipped from this point, and a good business is done by dealers in most of the lines of merchandise. In 1900 the railroad discontinued its agency at this point. The people, who voted bonds to aid in building the road with the belief that they were to have a permanent station, feel indignant over the loss of the agency.

#### EDNA.

On June 20, 1876, Mr. Booth and Alex. Patterson opened a general store in a claim shanty 11 by 14 feet, belonging to Jephtha Lackey, on the northeast one-fourth of section 30, in Elm Grove township. This was the first start of the town of Edna. That same fall this firm brought from the town of Chanute the material of a frame building which they had torn down, and with it they put up at Edna, on the same quarter, the first store building in the place. This building still stands. They continued to conduct the business until 1879, when they sold to Frank Clark. Other stores were opened from time to time. In 1883 Dunlap & Co. started a hardware store, but there were no very important enterprises start-

ed or any large amount of building done until the construction of the railroad through there in 1886, with the exception of the flour-mill, which was erected in 1883 by H. S. Wimmer and William Gear. This mill was put in operation in the spring of 1884, and has ever been one of the most substantial features of Edna's prosperity. The town was not regularly laid off until the location of the railroad, in the summer of 1886. A plat of the town embracing a portion of sections 29 and 30, township 34, range 19, was filed August 21, 1886.

#### FIRES.

There have been two quite extensive fires in Edna: one on February 13, 1889, on the west side of Delaware street, burning out the business houses of G. W. Reasor, W. P. Dollar and Josiah Arnold; the other in December, 1891, on the east side of Delaware street, consuming the business houses of Frank Martin, Frank Holton, L. Powell, Alexander Dunlap and C. M. Rinker.

#### STONE AND BRICK BUILDINGS.

There are two stone buildings in Edna, the first being the two-story bank building erected by C. T. Ewing in 1887, and the second, a one-story structure adjoining it, erected by G. W. Reasor in 1891. There have also been erected three fine brick store buildings, one in 1894, and two in 1899, two of them being two stories in height, and the other one-story.

#### ELEVATOR AND MILL.

As previously stated, a flouring mill was located here about the time the town was started. In 1899 a large elevator was erected.

## GOVERNMENT.

On the application of its citizens an order was made by the board of county commissioners on July 3, 1892, incorporating the town as a city of the third class, and on July 20 its first election was held, at which the following officers were elected: Mayor, J. H. Hoole; police judge, J. H. Reasor; councilmen G. W. Reasor, T. G. Harris, H. H. Clark, A. C. Veach and J. C. Arnold. The first meeting of the mayor and council was held July 25, 1892, at which J. E. Blunk was appointed and confirmed as city clerk.

On August 9 four ordinances were passed. The first levied an occupation tax on all the various kinds of business conducted there; the second provided for the maintenance of the peace; the third prohibited stock from running at large; and the fourth provided for licensing dogs.

Since its organization Edna has had the following mayors and city clerks: Mayors—1892, J. H. Hoole; 1893-96, F. E. Hamilton; 1897, J. E. Blunk; 1898-99, J. H. Hughes; 1900, Dr. J. H. Woodul. Clerks—1892, J. E. Blunk; 1893-94, A. C. Veach; 1895, W. E. Staige; 1896, E. H. Hughes; 1897, H. H. Clark; 1898, E. C. Fair; 1899, H. H. Clark; 1900, W. E. Staige.

## BANKS.

On January 25, 1887, C. T. Ewing, who was in the banking business at Thayer and Cherryvale, opened the International Bank at Edna, with J. M. Berry, cashier. C. H. Zabriski succeeded Mr. Berry as cashier on November 1, 1888, and continued in charge of the bank until it failed, in May 1892. A state bank under the management of J. H. Lount was opened in September, 1897; in the follow-

ing June it went into voluntary liquidation. The State Bank of Edna was opened July 21, 1899, with \$5,000 capital stock, and is doing a prosperous business.

## VALEDA.

The site for this town is on a part of section 33, township 34, range 18, and was owned by the Excelsior Town and Mining Company. The plat was filed July 7, 1886. The first building in the town was put up by Stone & Willie, who placed therein a stock of merchandise. About the same time C. M. Keeler erected a store building and put in a stock of goods, and Dr. Kenworthy started the first drug store. During the fall of 1866 all of the town of Deerton was moved to the Valeda town-site.

## LABETTE.

This town is located near the center of section 26, in Liberty township. It was started with the avowed purpose of making it the county seat, and leading citizens from the southern part of the county, as well as those in the near vicinity, took interest in the enterprise. Among the charter members were Dempsey Elliott, J. S. Waters, James H. Crichton, W. A. Hodges, John W. Horner, W. J. Conner, and many more of like character and responsibility. The town company was incorporated May 3, 1870. The charter specified that the town was to be located near Neola. It was not until September that the town plat was acknowledged by W. J. Conner, president of the town company; however, the building of the town commenced immediately upon the organization of the town company. The first families to be located upon the town-site were Robert Cooper, Wilf. Cooper, Dr. W. J. Con-

ner and Jacob Weider. Wilf. Cooper entered a part of the town-site, and had resided thereon since 1868. Probably the first business house upon the town-site was that of Jacob Weider, moved there from Montana the latter part of May, in which he at once opened a bakery and saloon. Another saloon was opened some time after this by a Mr. Woolsey; neither had license to run, and yet both were conducted for months without being interfered with. Before the close of June, 1870, a meat market was conducted by Lewis & Smith; a lumber yard by Mr. Wilkins; a boarding-house by Mr. Brady; a shoe shop by Mr. Moon, and a grocery store by Bates & Co. At this time it was said that there were 52 houses on the town-site. During the next few months the town built rapidly, and by the close of the year was represented by nearly every line of business.

Failing to secure the county seat, the success of the town began to be questioned, and of those interested therein some commenced to take their departure. For a number of years past it has remained what it became after the boom had subsided—a village with a fair business for two or three stores, and a shipping point for the grain raised in the vicinity. About 1875 a mill was erected by Bowen & Williams, of Chetopa. Some two years thereafter A. W. Diggs bought it, but soon sold it to other parties. The machinery was then removed, and for many years the mill was in disuse. In the spring of 1899 it was again refitted and put into operation by George Leggate. On November 2, 1899, the mill was entirely destroyed by fire.

The M. K. & T. Ry. Co. built a spur road branching off at Labette, and going to Mineral, in Cherokee county; this was commenced in the fall of 1894 and completed in the spring of 1895.

On February 15, 1897, a fire destroyed quite a portion of the business houses in the town. On June 7, 1890, a tornado destroyed the Baptist church and one or two other buildings.

Soon after the town was started cemetery grounds were selected north of town. Mrs. Sarah Cooper was the first person whose body was interred therein.

### ALTAMONT.

I. N. Hamilton, Henry G. Hamman, J. J. Miles and others were members of the town company which was chartered February 4, 1875, for the purpose of laying out a town on the south half of section 2 and the north half of section 11, township 33, range 19. This company does not seem to have accomplished its purpose, and on September 5, 1879, a new charter was filed, by I. N. Hamilton, S. O. Noble and others, for the purpose of locating a town on the northeast quarter of section 11, township 33, range 19. This land the company purchased from William Miller. The town plat was acknowledged by J. B. Jones, president, and S. O. Noble, secretary, and was filed January 21, 1880. I. N. Hamilton was first president, but was soon succeeded by J. B. Jones as president and Scott O. Noble as secretary. The first house erected on the town-site was the residence of Scott O. Noble; this was built in October, 1879. In December of the same year J. B. Jones put up the next building, in which, about the first of January, 1880, James Hershberger opened the first store in town.

### MILLS.

In 1875, before there seemed any prospect of building a town near there, E. C. Gordon

and A. B. Hammer erected a frame building on the northwest quarter of section 2, belonging to I. N. Hamilton. The machinery for a grist-mill was put in the next season, and a custom flouring-mill was conducted quite successfully for several years. In 1878 J. W. Giles erected a small mill on the southwest quarter of section 2. This was not operated very long. Mr. Giles afterwards moved the building onto the town-site, and out of it constructed a hotel. A mill was built in 1881 by Martin A. Renner and Daniel Reid. The town company donated the land, constructed the pond, and gave them \$75 in money, in order to secure the mill. Some years ago, W. J. Lough bought this mill and greatly improved and enlarged its capacity, making it one of the popular mills of the county. On June 3, 1900, it was totally destroyed by fire. After its destruction, John Rust erected, and in the latter part of 1900 completed, a large and well equipped elevator, in which he also grinds feed.

#### HOTELS.

The first hotel was built in the spring of 1880 by Samuel Sharp. Afterward J. W. Giles moved his mill building on the town site, and out of it constructed quite a good hotel building. A good frame building was subsequently erected near the depot, and has materially added to their hotel accommodations.

#### GOVERNMENT.

September 29, 1884, the town was incorporated, and on October 14, 1884, the first election was held, which resulted in electing H. C. Blanchard, mayor; L. W. Crain, police judge; and the following councilmen: R. B. Gregg, W. M. McCoid, D. Reid, C. S. Newlon, A. J.

Garst. W. F. Hamman was elected city clerk. Mr. Blanchard was elected mayor by two majority over J. B. Jones. Mayors: 1884, H. C. Blanchard; 1885, C. S. Newlon; 1886, W. P. Wilson; 1887, A. W. Mackie; 1888-89 J. B. Jones; 1890, R. B. Gay; 1891, A. W. Mackie; 1892-93, C. S. Newlon; 1894-95, W. J. Lough; 1896, S. L. Martin; 1897, Harry Mills; 1898, Thomas H. Lough; 1899, Charles E. Harrington; 1900, C. E. Hildreth. Clerks: 1884, W. F. Hamman; 1885, A. A. Farmer; 1886, B. F. Godfrey; 1887-88, C. M. Pool; 1889, J. B. Libbey; 1890, W. S. Houghton; 1891, Harry Mills; 1892, H. E. Hamman, Henry Tropp and W. F. Hamman; 1893, C. M. Doughman; 1894-96, W. W. Starnes; 1897, L. P. Hamilton; 1898, A. R. Martin; 1899, J. H. Taylor; 1900, J. E. Switzer.

#### BRICK BUILDINGS.

In 1886 P. Lane erected a substantial two-story brick business house. Prior to this all the buildings had been frame. In 1893 two or three one-story brick store buildings were put up. Besides these brick structures there are the brick school buildings.

#### COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL.

In 1893 the county high school was established in Altamont, and has been a help in giving the people a feeling of confidence and pride in their town.

#### BANK.

February 1, 1886, J. H. Macon and S. A. Duval opened a bank, which was run some time, but finally the management was such that it was found to be unprofitable, and it was closed.



## CHURCHES.

The Presbyterians put up a church building in the spring of 1881; the Methodists in 1882; the Baptists finished their house in June, 1884; and in 1892 the Christians purchased the old frame school-house and moved it onto their lots for a church.

## MOUND VALLEY.

J. P. Allen, W. A. Lewis, Charles Beggs, N. L. Hibbard, Chas. Lierly, C. H. Lewis and others became incorporated July 13, 1868, with the authority to locate a town on section 2, township 33, range 18. The first building on the town-site was put up in the summer of 1869, by the town company in connection with Alexander Honrath and Henry Rohr, the upper story of which was to be used as the town company's office and the public hall, and the lower story by Honrath & Rohr for a general store. Among those who followed Messrs. Honrath & Rohr were L. F. Nicholas, who put in a stock of drugs; J. B. Kremer, who had a grocery and hardware store; and E. H. Stevens, the postoffice.

No title to the land on which the town was located was obtained from the Government until the passage of the act of 1876. In February, 1877, the occupants petitioned the probate judge to enter the town-site as he was authorized to do under the law. This he did, and in July, 1878, a certificate of entry was issued to him for the benefit of the occupants of the said town-site.

## PROFESSIONAL MEN.

Several parties who had been or claimed to be lawyers have had their office in this town.

W. M. Rogers was the first of this class to locate here. Without attempting to mention a number of those who subsequently attempted to practice in justice court, some of whom were and some of whom were not admitted to the bar, I may mention W. F. Schoch, who for several years was located at this point, and did a good business. A little later, Alvah Shick, who had been raised in the town, was admitted to the bar, and did collecting and a local law business until his death. The first doctor to locate in this vicinity was Charles H. Lewis, who settled here in 1869. He had a claim on which he lived; he had quite a good practice. E. Tanner came in February, 1870, and N. M. Miller later in that year. Doctors Pattie, Woods, Towel, Wenner, Tustison, Stansbury, McEwen, Sanders, Allen, Lemon, Lake, Strother and Morgan have offered their services to the public, and several of them have done a good business and made a good reputation.

## BANKS.

On October 7, 1883, C. M. Condon and W. H. Gandy opened a bank, which they continued to run until September, 1889, when they dissolved, since which time the bank has been conducted by Mr. Condon.

## GAS.

In 1883 an effort was made to sink an artesian well for the purpose of supplying the town with water, and with the hope of finding coal. After drilling to a depth of over 750 feet, the parties became doubtful of obtaining the object sought; it was, however, discovered that the well contained a large amount of gas, and in 1884 tubing was put in with the view of utilizing the gas. For practical purposes, this

never amounted to anything. But, later, other efforts have been made to prospect further and, if possible, to find gas in paying quantities. In 1900, work in this direction was commenced, and at this writing it is believed by many that a sufficient flow has been obtained to justify piping the town, preparatory to its use.

#### SANITARIUM.

The gas well above referred to was found to afford water highly impregnated with minerals which it was believed would be good for medicinal purposes. Authority was obtained from the Legislature to use the proceeds of the sale of the township railroad stock in the erection of a large house, which was done, and it has become quite a resort for invalids. It is lighted and heated by natural gas from the well already spoken of.

#### MILL.

In 1881 W. C. O'Brien and W. W. Harper erected a mill on the bank of the Labette, which proved to be a very good institution for the place, but not always a profitable investment to the owners. The mill was entirely consumed by fire on November 23, 1892. Since then a new mill has been built on the site of the old one.

#### STONE AND BRICK BUILDINGS.

There is one stone and one brick building in town. The first was built by Joseph Riff, in 1883; the latter, a very fine structure, was built by F. P. Dicus & Co., in 1890.

#### FIRES.

The first fire in town was on October 6, 1872, when the town company building with the stock of Honrath & Rohr was entirely consumed. This was probably as heavy a loss

to the town as the great fire which occurred in 1889, when a whole block of buildings was consumed with the greater part of the stocks in it. The grist-mill was burned on November 23, 1892.

#### GOVERNMENT.

On August 2, 1871, on petition of Alexander Honrath and others, an order of the probate court was made for the incorporation of the town, and the following persons were appointed trustees: Alexander Honrath, Wm. M. Rogers, John B. Campbell, E. Tanner, and Alexander McBride.

On January 9, 1884, an order of the judge of the district court was made incorporating the town as a city of the third class. The first election was held January 24th. Mayors: E. Tanner, W. W. Harper, E. Tanner, William Clark, Josephus Moore, W. W. McEwen, F. E. West, F. P. Dicus (2 years), F. M. Gandy, E. Tanner (2 years), Alvah Shick, and George Lutz (2 years). Clerks: W. N. McCoid, J. M. Smith, N. M. Miller, S. D. Richardson, Isaac Hill, Rufus Thrall, W. N. McCoid, T. J. Cozad, F. M. Gandy, E. A. Steele, A. L. Bushnell, Dott Norfleet (2 years), Ivy Norfleet, and W. H. Humphrey.

#### CHETOPA.

Of the early settlement of this part of the county I have spoken in other parts of this work. The first white settler within the present corporate limits of Chetopa of whom I have any account was John McMurtry, who lived at a point on the Neosho River at or near where the west end of the Neosho bridge is now located. When the settlement was destroyed in 1863, his house was torn down. I have not been able to learn at what date he

settled here, but Dr. Lisle found him there when he came, and he continued to reside there up to the breaking up of the settlement in 1863. Dr. Lisle made his settlement upon a piece of ground, ever since claimed by him as his home, on April 18, 1857. That summer he erected his house and shops on what is now a part of block 24. In August he went back to Ohio and brought his family with him, arriving in Chetopa in November. From that time to the present his absence from Chetopa has been but temporary.

Willoughby Doudna came to see Dr. Lisle in the fall of 1857 and stayed with him some time. The next year he went back to Ohio and married. In the fall he and his wife came to Chetopa, but in the spring of 1859 they located near Baxter Springs, and did not come back to Chetopa until after the war.

The early settlement at and around Chetopa was broken up November 19, 1863, by a force of United States troops numbering probably some two or three hundred, under the command of Captain Willits, Adjutant Ahle and Lieutenant Josylen. All of the buildings in the vicinity were burned or otherwise destroyed and all the settlers were driven away. This was done, as the officers claimed, by command of their superior officers to prevent the property falling into the hands of the rebels. Dr. Lisle and family went to Council Grove. They remained until September, 1865, when he came down and looked over the ground, and in November of that year brought his family back to Chetopa.

#### PERMANENT SETTLEMENT.

The permanent settlement of Chetopa really commences with the year 1866. In the spring of that year Ephraim Doudna and Dr. George

Lisle built the first house upon the town-site. It was a "shake" house, and stood on the west side of what is now Third street, and north of Maple street, near the alley. In this home Ephraim Doudna opened the first store in town. He had a small stock of goods consisting of dry goods, groceries and provisions. Soon after this a man by the name of Hoffman built a cabin and blacksmith shop south of where Maple street now is, and between Second and Third streets. These were the only buildings in town at the close of 1866 of which I have been able to learn, although it is probable there were two or three more log houses built that year. Perry Barnes moved into town on election day, in November of that year, and was allowed to vote; it was considered that everybody who was here with the intention of settling had a right to express his preference at the first election. D. U. Watson and Wm. Shay were two of the judges of this election, and S. R. Southwick was one of the clerks.

In February of 1867 Willoughby Doudna, who had a sawmill on the east side of the Neosho River, just above the mouth of Canville Creek, in Neosho county, moved it to Chetopa and located it on the west side of the Neosho near the foot of Maple street as afterwards located. He began sawing on February 20th, and had a buhr for grinding corn in operation the fore part of May. The only other mills at this time in the county were in Neosho and Montana townships. W. H. Reed operated this mill, sawed the first tree made into boards in Chetopa, and during the spring built the first frame house that was erected in town. It stood at the northwest corner of block 60. From this time on frame houses made of native lumber began to be built where before either the log or "shake" shanties had been made to answer. In the early summer of this year a rough survey

for the town-site was made by S. R. Southwick, and Maple and Third streets were located. In June, Perry Barnes built a house on the southeast corner of Third and Maple streets, designed for a hotel and store. In this, about the first of July, he opened a stock of groceries and a hotel; this was the first hotel in town, and the second store. About the same time a small cabin was erected on the southwest corner of First and Maple streets and called "Bachelors' Hall," or the "Cabinet Shop." That summer Z. A. Woodard bought out Mr. Doudna, and in the building occupied by him put in a general stock of goods. In this store, from the first, was kept the postoffice. Thus the first building erected upon the town-site contained not only the first store, but also the first postoffice. William Craft and family came in October of that year, and at once commenced the erection of a hotel on the northwest corner of Third and Maple streets. It was a frame building, 24 by 26 feet, two stories high. It was completed and opened for guests that fall, under the name of the Chetopa House, and was the first building erected exclusively for a hotel. In the 'Bachelors' Hall' or "Cabinet Shop" above referred to, in September this year, was opened the first Sunday school in town, with G. H. Hard as superintendent. Occasionally preaching services were also had. On October 23, this year, Emma Reed was born to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Reed. This was the first birth in town.

The important events of 1868 were the securing of a title to the town-site, the organization of the town company, and the definite survey and laying out of the town. As several of the then residents of Chetopa had settled there before the war, they were able to enter their lands under the 4th article of the treaty

with the Osages of September 29, 1865. On January 21, 1868, Dr. George Lisle entered the southeast quarter of section 34, Willoughby Doudna and George Hanson part of section 35. The lands thus entered embraced the site of Chetopa, and so much as was within the limits of what was intended for the town was deeded to the town company. Thus, while her neighbors had to make their improvements on Government land, Chetopa could offer homes to which a perfect title could be secured. This was an important item in her favor.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

In the spring of this year the California House was erected, on the northeast corner of Maple and Third streets. In the latter part of the summer Spaulding's Hall, on the corner of Fourth and Maple streets, was erected; it was a good-sized two-story building, and furnished the first place in town suitable for holding religious and public meetings. Another enterprise started this year, and one destined to add as much to the development of the town as almost any that was started in an early day, was the planing mill, sash and furniture factory of Taft, Brown & Co. This was built in the fall, and ready for operation the first of December. They sent out a large amount of house-furnishing material and furniture to adjacent counties and neighboring towns. During the fall of this year Oliver Marsh opened a large dry-goods store, and Dr. M. H. Dursham started a drug store, which he conducted in connection with his professional practice. On April 4th James H. Crichton walked into town as the vanguard of a long line of attorneys who were to grace the bar at that place, and during the early summer he put up a two-story frame building on the north side of Maple

street, and had it plastered; this was the first plastered house in town. At the close of 1868 there was quite a large settlement of industrious and enterprising people who were successfully conducting various lines of business, and the town presented the appearance of a thriving and progressive village.

#### THE TOWN COMPANY.

Dr. Lisle had from the first intended the location of a town upon the land on which he settled, and early in 1868 he arranged with influential men for the organization of a town company. It was not, however, until March 30 of this year that the town company was incorporated. The charter members consisted of George Lisle, George Hanson, Willoughby Doudna, N. S. Goss, John Secrest, J. D. Torbert, and Watson Stewart. The company organized by the election of George Lisle president and Willoughby Doudna secretary. The town was located and laid off upon sections 34 and 35. Liberal donations were made to the various church organizations, and to such enterprises as it was thought would tend to up-build the town.

#### IMPROVEMENTS IN 1869.

I shall not attempt to describe the continued multiplication of new buildings, both business houses and private residences, as they appear during this and succeeding years. The two important features of the town's history in 1869 were the establishment of the *Advance* and the incorporation of the town. By donation of lots made by the town company and the securing of a fair limit of paid subscribers, John W. Horner and A. S. Cory had been induced in the latter part of 1868 to bring a

printing press from Baldwin City, Douglas county, to Chetopa, and in the first week of 1869 they gave to the public the first issue of the *Advance*. It is not likely that any donation ever made by its citizens did more for the upbuilding of Chetopa than that which secured them this paper. Its publishers displayed a wonderful amount of enterprise in the gathering of news and extending the circulation of their paper. The advantages which the town offered were thus made known to all who had any disposition to learn.

In March W. A. Hodges brought quite a large nursery stock, which was the first to be brought to this part of the county. The first flouring-mill in town was erected in the fall of this year, and in October commenced its operation. Gilbert Martin was the proprietor.

#### AN IMPORTANT YEAR.

The year 1870 was an important one in the history of Chetopa. The fact that every one confidently anticipated the completion of the railroad some time during the early part of the year, gave a great impetus to business, and speculations ran high. A large number of new buildings were erected, and large numbers of new firms opened up in business.

**BRICK BUILDINGS.**—Up to 1870 there had been nothing but wooden structures in town, but early this summer several brick business houses were erected. Among the bricks erected were one by F. A. Drake, one by Dr. Halderman, and one by Hornby & Lewis; others were also arranged for and built the following year. In June of this year the cars were running into Chetopa, and the fact that it was the end of the line brought there a large number of emigrants—not only those who were intending to stop here, but also those who were antici-

pating going farther south and southwest. From this point travelers laid in their supplies, and the merchants of Chetopa conducted almost a wholesale business.

FOUNDRY.—In the latter part of 1870, John Torrance located his foundry at this point. This was a valuable addition to the business of the town, bringing to it an element of trade which before that had been compelled to go to Fort Scott and other points north.

#### BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES.

In January, 1880, a branch of the State Freedman's Aid Society was organized for the purpose of furnishing aid to the destitute refugees who had settled here. C. H. McCreery was president and J. D. Graham secretary.

ORPHANS' HOME SOCIETY.—A Number of years ago this society was formed in aid to the State Home for Orphans. The ladies met regularly, and worked on articles either to be used in the Home itself, or to be sold and the proceeds applied to the aid of the Home. Through their exertions a number of orphans were provided with homes.

A. F. & A. M.—On November 5, 1868, a Masonic lodge was organized, with J. H. Crichton, W. M.

I. O. O. F.—August 10, 1869, a lodge of the Odd Fellows was organized.

A. O. U. W.—A lodge of the United Workmen was organized December 17, 1879, with J. B. Cook, M. W.

K. of P.—A lodge of this order was organized May 9, 1883.

#### OAK HILL CEMETERY.

On September 13, 1869, a meeting was held in Spaulding's Hall to consider the matter of

a cemetery. Jonas Clark, W. B. Gregory and T. B. Lake were appointed a committee to select a site. In October the committee selected 20 acres on the east side of Mr. Hard's farm, southeast of town. No title could be procured to this ground for some years; nevertheless, the burying proceeded. The Legislature authorized the trustee of Richland township to appropriate money to help pay for this cemetery ground; the township and city thereupon appropriating enough money to purchase and procure title to the land. The cemetery association was incorporated in June, 1883, with L. M. Bedell president, and George Eddington secretary and superintendent.

#### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

On April 12, 1869, on petition of her citizens, the probate judge made an order incorporating the town of Chetopa, and appointed William Gage, Leander Brown, M. G. Pratt, A. S. Cory and Henry Lisle as its board of trustees. On April 14, 1869, these trustees met, and organized by electing William Gage chairman, and appointing W. H. Fisher clerk. On June 28th Mr. Fisher resigned as clerk, and C. F. Webster was appointed to fill the vacancy. Some time between August 16th and December 8th, 1869, H. R. Dobyns was appointed clerk.

On March 9, 1870, an ordinance which had just been passed was published, declaring Chetopa a city of the third class, and on April 4th the first city election was held. A Republican caucus had previously been held, and nominated S. A. Marsh for mayor, W. B. Gregory, C. H. Dudlow, Wm. Nix, C. A. Degraff, and Dr. L. P. Patty for councilmen. The opposition concentrated their strength upon the office of mayor, and, many Republicans joining,



brought out F. M. Graham for that office, who, after a spirited contest, was elected, with all the above-named candidates for council. Upon organizing, the new government continued Mr. Dobyns as city clerk till May, 1870, when he was succeeded by N. S. Storrs.

In March, 1871, the city was by ordinance declared a city of the second class under the special act of the Legislature providing for its organization as such, along with Oswego. There was a lively contest for the city officers at the April election that year. George W. Fox was supported by those generally designated as the "bummer element," by the *Advance*, and of course by many good citizens. C. F. Smith was supported by the Mechanics' Association, which had recently been organized, and by the more conservative class of citizens. Mr. Fox was elected. On April 12, 1871, the new city council organized, and the following officers were appointed: Clerk, J. M. Cavaness; treasurer, Hiram Butterworth; assessor, C. P. Spaulding; street commissioner, R. G. Tileston; attorney, J. J. Long. On September 1st Mr. Cavaness resigned as city clerk, G. W. Houston filling the place temporarily till October, when I. R. Minor was appointed, and was succeeded by Leroy Neale in November.

The city government was characterized by a spirit of profligacy in the expenditure of money and the incurring of debt which soon brought it into disrepute with nearly all of the business part of the place. The mayor claimed high prerogatives unknown to the law. The saloons were the most powerful features in the local administration. During the fall and winter the *Advance*, which had favored their election, opened a war on the city administration. It said, "The rogues are having their own way to their hearts' content." For weeks

before the next election both sides—the administration and the reformers—conducted an active canvass. But when the election came off, in April, 1872, those in favor of changing the administration made a clean sweep and elected their full ticket.

For a second time F. M. Graham became mayor. C. F. Smith was soon appointed clerk, and in June was succeeded by M. S. Parker. The old debt was bonded, the expensive contracts for street improvements were modified as far as possible in the interest of economy, and a feeling of financial security began again to inspire the people. It was evident that a new order of things had been inaugurated. Mayors: 1870, F. M. Graham; 1871, G. W. Fox; 1872, F. M. Graham; 1873, George Lisle; 1874, N. Elliott; 1875, Alfred Large; 1876, S. B. Fisher; 1877, L. M. Bedell; 1878, S. B. Fisher; 1879, J. H. Chrichton; 1881-87, J. B. Cook; 1888, James Brown; 1889, George Eddington; 1891-92, C. Cranwell; 1893-94, A. B. Temple; 1895-96, J. W. Columbia; 1897-98, E. W. Bedell; in April, 1899, C. Cranwell was again elected, but died a year thereafter, and S. T. Herman was then elected to fill out his term. Clerks: 1869, W. F. Fisher, C. F. Webster, H. R. Dobyns; 1870, N. S. Storrs; 1871, J. M. Cavaness, G. W. Houston, I. R. Minor, Leroy Neale; 1872, C. F. Smith, M. S. Parker; 1873, G. M. Caldwell; 1874-7, Henry Frye; 1878-87, John W. Breidenthal; 1887, A. F. Sloane, J. B. Sneely; 1888-9, I. H. Frye; 1890, A. R. Bell; 1891, J. M. Cavaness; 1892-96, E. W. Minturn; 1897-1899, Carl J. Simons; 1900, A. R. Bell.

## BANKS.

Near the close of 1868 C. P. Spaulding started the first bank in the town. He had

very little capital, and attempted a much larger business than he was able to conduct. He continued to operate this bank until the spring of 1870, when, unable to meet his obligations, a number of suits were commenced against him and he was forced to quit business.

W. B. Ketcham and F. H. Ketcham opened a bank about July 1, 1870, which they conducted until the fall of the following year.

**NATIONAL BANK.**—The First National Bank was the successor of Ketcham Brothers. It was opened for business December 4, 1871, with James E. Marsh, of Kansas City, president; E. J. Stewart (then postmaster), vice-president; F. H. Ketcham, cashier; Lee Clark, assistant cashier. Some time thereafter R. W. Officer succeeded Mr. Marsh as president. The bank had an authorized capital of \$50,000, and a paid-up capital of \$25,000. In March, 1873, the bank moved into its fine brick building, which it had just completed on the northwest corner of Third and Maple streets. In September, 1873, the stringency of the money market caused this bank to temporarily suspend payment. On July, 19, 1875, the bank decided to go into liquidation, and Lee Clark was put in charge and settled up its affairs.

**SAVINGS BANK.**—The Chetopa Savings Bank was organized July 1, 1871, with a paid up capital of \$30,000. Charles H. Safford was president, L. F. Fisher, secretary, and George S. Newman, cashier.

**PRIVATE BANKS.**—January 1, 1876, F. H. Ketcham, R. W. Officer and Lee Clark commenced business as Ketcham & Co., and succeeded to the business of the First National Bank. Lee Clark bought out the interest of his partners in June, 1876, and in August following associated with him Arthur D. Sturgis under the firm name of Clark & Sturgis. January 1, 1879, Lee Clark went to Parsons to

become cashier of the First National Bank of that place, and later in the year Mr. Sturgis removed to Mansfield, Ohio, leaving Edgar W. Clark in charge of the bank. August 1, 1879, Lee Clark purchased Mr. Sturgis' interest and soon thereafter sold a half interest to George H. Bates. Clark & Bates as thus constituted continued in business till the death of Mr. Bates, in February, 1883, when Florence E. Bates succeeded to the interest of her husband. Afterward Lee Clark sold his interest in the bank to Edgar W. Clark, who, with Mrs. Bates, continued to conduct it for some time.

**STATE BANKS.**—The Citizens State Bank, of which J. P. McEwen is president and J. F. McEwen is cashier, succeeded to the business of Clark & Bates. The Neosho Valley Bank was an adjunct of the Neosho Valley Investment Company, and when the latter failed, the bank changed management and became the Farmers and Merchants State Bank, of which W. G. Hoover is president and H. W. Bedell, cashier.

#### LOAN AND INVESTMENT COMPANY.

Col. J. B. Cook in 1875 opened a real estate and loan business, and during the next few years did an extensive business, both in the way of selling real estate and making real estate loans. January 1, 1884, L. M. Bedell and J. W. Breidenthal became associated with him in the loan business the firm being known as J. B. Cook & Co.

By March 1, 1885, the Neosho Valley Investment Company was formed as the successor to the business of J. B. Cook & Co. J. B. Cook was president; J. W. Breidenthal, secretary; L. M. Bedell, treasurer. Subsequently R. Haines Passmore succeeded Mr.

Cook as president, and subsequently still other changes were made in its officers. In September, 1898, this company went into the hands of a receiver, and its business is now in process of settlement through the courts.

#### MILLS.

October, 1869, Gilbert Martin commenced operating a flouring-mill, which he had just finished on the Neosho.

July 1, 1871, Hunter & Williams' flour-mill, which had been erected during the early part of the year, was finished and opened for business. Since then other mills have been established.

#### MECHANICS' ASSOCIATION.

On March 3, 1871, the mechanics of the town organized an association for mutual help and protection, of which J. M. Bannan was secretary and the controlling spirit. This organization sought to unite the mechanics' interest in the town by an effort to control the work of that locality to those residing therein rather than allowing it to be done by persons brought there from abroad, and also to secure a fair remuneration to all who were engaged in mechanical pursuits.

#### OPERA HOUSE.

In December, 1882, the opera house company was organized, with G. H. Bates, president; B. S. Edwards, vice-president; William Lehman, secretary, and E. W. Clark, treasurer, and the following year the opera house was constructed and opened.

#### FIRES.

On September 17, 1871, a big fire broke out, and nearly one block, known as the Sturgis

block, was burned. August 14, 1882, a great fire took place, starting in G. A. Luman's hardware store on the south side of Maple street, and consuming 19 buildings before its force could be arrested. On May 3, 1884, Marsh's block was burned. Several other fires of more or less note have occurred; one of these was on February 12, 1899, when the Presbyterian church was burned.

#### SIDEWALKS.

During the past few years a very great improvement has been made in the walks of the city. Wide brick sidewalks have been laid, on both sides of the street, the whole length of Maple street, from the business portion to the M. K. & T. Ry. depot. In other parts of the town the walks have also been improved.

#### NATURAL GAS.

Not a large amount of this article has yet been found, but sufficient to be utilized to a certain extent in heating and lighting the business houses. Farther developments are hoped for.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

On February 18, 1875, the Ladies' Library Association of Chetopa was organized, with a membership of 81. Mrs. M. A. Shields, Mrs. J. F. Hunter, and Mrs. H. Butterworth, by the payment of \$10 each, were made life members of the association. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. M. A. Aldrich; secretary, Mrs. B. S. Edwards; treasurer, Mrs. M. A. Shields; librarian, Miss Fannie Shields. On May 14, 1875, the library was formally opened, with 116 volumes on the shelves. In February, 1882, the association disbanded, and

did nothing for three years. On March 7, 1885, it was reorganized as the City Library Association, with a membership of 90. The payment of \$1 a year entitled one to the use of a book each week. The association now has 582 books in the library.

#### LITERARY.

A number of winters, more especially in her early history, Chetopa has maintained a good literary society; frequently the business men have been among the leading spirits in it. In 1870 C. H. Ludlow was president, and that year, as well as in 1872-73, most of the leading men took part in the debates. In 1873 a temperance literary society was organized, of which Dr. C. Humble was president.

An organization of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle was effected here in 1884.

#### CHINAMEN.

In 1884 a couple of Chinamen came to town and opened up a laundry. Some of the citizens conceived a great antipathy to these workmen, and concluded that the proper thing to do was to dispense with their presence. The Chinamen were informed that they would do well to take their departure from town, but not heeding the request, other measures were taken to induce them to find a more congenial home. The authorities, ascertaining what was going on, took steps to interfere; the result was the arrest of some two dozen men engaged in the attempt to depopulate, and after a protracted and hotly-contested suit four of the parties were convicted and fined \$25 each.

#### CELEBRATIONS.

Chetopa has ever taken a pride in getting up fine celebrations. The first one was held

on July 4, 1867, in an arbor provided for the occasion north of Maple and east of Third streets, at which the Declaration of Independence was read by Harry Shannon, of La Porte, Indiana. Speeches were made by Captain Secrest and others, and in this arbor in the afternoon of that day Rev. Mr. Cox, from Indiana, preached the first sermon of which we have any account since the breaking up of the settlement in 1863. At the same place in the evening a dance was held, and those participating therein took their refreshments at Barnes' Hotel, which had just been opened across the street to the south. The next celebration of note was on July 4, 1869 at which Congressman Sidney Clarke and Colonel Hoyt made speeches to a large crowd of people. Another important celebration was held July 4, 1875, when George T. Anthony spoke to a large crowd of people.

Not every year, but frequently, since then, the city has observed the day of national independence in a similar way. In recent years there have been held annually reunions of the old soldiers, which have brought large numbers of people to the city.

#### OSWEGO.

1865.

Of the settlement of Mathews upon the present site of the city of Oswego, I have spoken in another part of this work. The first settlement of the town aside from the Mathews settlement dates from the fall of 1865. In the latter part of October of that year Clinton Rexford and N. P. Elsbree located, the former on the southeast quarter of section 16, and the latter upon the southwest quarter of section 15, township 33, range 21, and were the first white men to make their homes upon the present site

of Oswego after the death of Mathews. Messrs. Rexford and Elsbree were directed to this site by A. T. Dickerman and Jabez Zink, who had a short time before that located upon the Labette, and who found them encamped near the mouth of that stream in search for a location and contesting with the Bakers for claims taken by them. They had not much more than gotten fairly located upon their claim until other parties came into the neighborhood. But as the location of these new settlements were outside of the limits of what became the town, and have been spoken of in treating of the settlement of the township, I will not repeat it here. Late in 1865, Rexford and Elsbree brought on a small stock of provisions and opened up the first store or trading-post in the town, and in fact the first in this part of the county. Their store building was a rough log shanty, and stood near the center of what is now block 66. In the street near the northwest corner of this block is a spring from which all the early settlers were supplied with water. The old Government road, coming from a northwesterly direction, passed between what is now blocks 61 and 66.

1866.

The first hotel in the place was started in the spring of this year by Wm. A. Hogaboom. It was a log cabin, and stood on what is now the east part of block 61. While it was not a very commodious affair, it served the purpose of furnishing entertainment to the few new settlers who commenced coming early that season. Among those who came this year were the following: Dr. John F. Newlon, C. H. Talbott, Andy Kaho, the Sloane family, Thos. J. Buntain, Hiram Hollingsworth, Thos. J. Flouronoy, J. Q. Cowell, H. C. Bridgman, Jas.

Jones, H. W. Thompson, Nelson F. Carr, and C. H. Bent. Carr and Bridgman bought from Rexford and Elsbree the small stock of groceries which they had put in the fall previous, and added somewhat thereto; and during that year J. Q. Cowell put up a small addition to the Carr and Bridgman store, in which he opened up a small stock of groceries and drugs. This was the first drug store in the county.

1867.

The treaty with the Osages having been ratified and proclaimed by the President, settlers came in this year in greater numbers, and with more assurance of finding here a home than had those who had previously come. D. W. Clover had come into the vicinity the July previous, and had stopped with his sons down on the bank of the river. Directly after coming he had gone into the organization of the town company, making preparations for helping build up the town. During the winter he had gotten out logs, and in the spring of this year erected on the southeast corner of block 25 a hewed-log house in which he at once opened a hotel, naming it the Oswego House; ever since which time the principal hotel in the place has been maintained on that corner under the same name as first started.

The principal new business firms that were started this year were A. Waskey & Sons, Dr. R. W. Wright, and H. L. Woodford. All of these came here during the summer and got their business houses open in the fall. J. F. and T. P. Waskey conducted the business for their house, opening first in the Buntain building and the next season erecting their own building, in block 33, into which they moved.

Prior to this year there had been no saw-mills in the county, and all of the buildings had been built of logs—some of them rough log



houses, and some hewed. Those, who built this year were able to get boards, and several frame houses were erected. Thomas J. Buntain put up a two-story frame about 20 by 40 feet, on the southwest corner of block 25; Dr. R. W. Wright put up a one-story frame on the northwest corner of block 31, in which he thereafter put his drug store; Dr. W. S. Newlon built a frame residence on the lots ever since occupied by him. Several other smaller frame houses, either for business or residence, were also built. In addition to Dr. Wright, Dr. Newlon, and the Waskey brothers, whom I have mentioned as having come this year, I may name A. L. Austin, Rev. Thomas H. Canfield, Jerry D. McCue, and Walter P. Bishop. At the close of 1867 there were in Oswego 10 frame buildings and 11 log houses, with a population of 16 families, numbering about 100 individuals. There were in all five stores, two of which were kept on the site first occupied, on the edge of the bluff, one by Carr & Bridgman and one by J. Q. Cowell. H. L. Woodford had a small feed store in the same vicinity. The other two stores were within the present business site—one by the Waskeys in the Buntain building, and the other by Dr. Wright in his own building, as above described. In addition to these there was one blacksmith shop and one hotel.

During the summer Mrs. Herbaugh taught the first school, and the first religious services were also held, a Sunday-school having been organized and maintained during the summer, and preaching services having been instituted in the fall by Rev. Thomas H. Canfield, who had been sent here by the Congregational Society, and by Rev. John Mark, a local Methodist preacher, who had settled in the township. Thos. J. Flouronoy, a Baptist minister, also preached occasionally.

1868.

A very great addition was made to the growth and improvement of the town during this year. Several firms of quite large means started in business, and a number of substantial residences were put up. Read Bros., a firm composed of John S., Merriam and Elijah T., came early in the year, and at once commenced the construction of their store building on the west side of Commercial street, where they have ever since been in business. They built a large two-story frame building and put therein the first stock of hardware brought to town. C. M. Condon came in the spring, and put up a two-story frame, placing therein a large stock of general merchandise. Israel R. Fisher (Samuel Fisher, his brother, being then with him) located and put up a two-story frame, in which he commenced the sale of groceries, which he has continued until the present. Several other business houses of less magnitude than those I have mentioned were started this year; so that at the close of the year there were 100 frame buildings in town, a very fair proportion of which were occupied by business of one kind or another. Nearly all of the lines of business usually found in frontier towns were at that time fairly represented.

The town had been started on an Indian reservation before the treaty with the Indians releasing their rights thereto had been approved, and even at this time the title to the same was in the General Government, and no provision had yet been made for anyone acquiring a title to his home; yet people who had come here had commenced preparations for permanent homes, and most of them had no thought of making a change. Those in business were making money, and all seemed contented and prosperous, and the year closed with



Oswego having apparently as good a prospect as any of her competitors for making a prosperous and permanent growth.

#### TITLE TO TOWN-SITE.

The town company had originally claimed and bought the right of the original occupants to the southwest quarter of section 15 and the southeast quarter of section 16. Under the ruling of the land office the odd sections could not be entered under the joint resolution of April 10, 1869, but the even sections could. It was arranged that the southeast quarter of section 16 should be entered by D. W. Clover, who was then the oldest resident living upon the same. Immediately after making entry Mr. Clover conveyed the title to this quarter to the town company, which was thus enabled to make title to the several occupants then living and doing business thereon. As no titles could be obtained to lots on the southwest quarter of section 15, few persons settled thereon after that became known. After the contest with the railroads ended in the decision of the court against their claim, the passage of the law by Congress in 1876 provided for the entry of town-sites by the municipal authorities, when the town was incorporated, for the benefit of the occupants thereon. Some one had secured a provision to be inserted in the act authorizing town companies to enter town-sites under certain conditions. A contest sprang up between the Oswego Town Company and the mayor and councilmen of the city of Oswego, for the entry of the southwest quarter of section 15. The city was represented in this contest by its city attorney, and the town company by Colonel W. B. Glasse. The decision of the local land office was in favor of the city authorities. From this an appeal was taken to the

Commissioner of the General Land Office, and then to the Secretary of the Interior, both of whom sustained the decision of the land office in favor of the city authorities. This contest was ended in March, 1880, and thereupon the city conveyed title to the occupants for the lots occupied by them respectively.

#### THE TOWN COMPANY.

Up to July, 1866, the place we now designate Oswego had been known as Little Town "from a time when the memory of man runneth not to the contrary."

Prior to the incorporation of the town company there were no records kept of its transactions except upon slips of paper. I have gone through the records thus kept so far as they have been preserved, and from them find the following facts: J. F. Newlon, William A. Hogaboom, C. H. Talbott and D. C. Rexford seem to have been the parties instrumental in organizing the town company; at any rate they are the ones who receipted for the money paid for shares in the town company, so far as I can now ascertain from these fragments of records. The first records of any kind that I find are receipts, coming by date in the following order:

"NEOSHO COUNTY, KANSAS, July 9, 1866.

"Received of N. Sloan thirty-one dollars, being one-half payment for said share in the town. Balance to be paid when the company is organized and title perfected. If not perfected, the money refunded.

"WILLIAM A. HOGABOOM."

"NEOSHO COUNTY, KANSAS, July 10, 1866.

"Received of A. Kaho one-half payment

for one town share, in a watch; if title not perfected, the watch returned in good order.

"WILLIAM A. HOGABOOM."

"NEOSHO COUNTY, KANSAS, July 11, 1866.

"Received of Daniel Matthias thirty-one dollars, being the one-half the money for a town share on the Matthews place. The balance due when the company perfect their arrangements and a good and sufficient title is had, but the above money to be returned if said arrangements are not consummated.

"WILLIAM A. HOGABOOM."

"Received of D. W. Clover thirty-one dollars, being one-half the pay of a share in Little Town. C. H. TALBOTT.

"LITTLE TOWN, July 12, 1866."

The first record of the minutes of any meeting being held is the following:

"LITTLE TOWN, NEOSHO COUNTY, KANS.,  
July 12, 1866.

"The shareholders of the Town Company of Little Town met for the purpose of organization. Mr. D. W. Clover was called to the chair. On motion, Dr. J. F. Newlon was elected president *pro tem.*, Wm. A. Hogaboom, vice-president *pro tem.*, and H. C. Bridgman, secretary *pro tem.* Moved that a committee of three be appointed to draft by-laws for the company. Carried."

It will thus be seen that upon July 12, 1866, the proposed town is still designated Little Town. The first time I find the word "Oswego" written is in the following instrument:

"OSWEGO, KANSAS, July 17, 1866.

"This entitles the holder, T. J. Buntain, to

one full share in the Town Company of Oswego, Neosho county, Kansas, on his complying with the rules and regulations of the Town Company of said town of Oswego.

"J. F. NEWLON, President.

"H. C. BRIDGMAN, Secretary of Town Co."

There is no record now to be found of the exact time when it was done, nor of the action taken in changing from Little Town to Oswego, but it is apparent from the instruments copied above that some time between the 12th and 17th of July the change of name was made. I am informed that at a meeting of the town company D. W. Clover suggested the name of Oswego for the proposed town, and some other member of the company, probably J. Q. Cowell, suggested Vernon. A ballot was taken, and a majority of the stockholders voted in favor of choosing the name "Oswego;" and from that time on Oswego was the designation of the settlement formerly known as Little Town.

On August 3, 1867, J. Q. Cowell, C. C. Clover, J. F. Newlon, D. W. Clover, T. J. Flouronoy, T. J. Buntain and D. M. Clover signed articles of incorporation, which were acknowledged before D. W. Clover, justice of the peace, and the charter thus prepared and signed, was, on August 10, 1867, filed in the office of the Secretary of State, and the company had a corporate existence from that date. The company's book contains no record of the meeting, but on a scrap of paper I find the minutes of a meeting held September 24th, and while the figures representing the year are not very distinct, I take it to be 1867. This being soon after the incorporation, it was evidently the first meeting of the incorporators after receiving the charter. The minutes show that "on motion to organize and elect directors,"

the following were elected: J. F. Newlon, T. J. Flouronoy, D. W. Clover, D. M. Clover, and N. F. Carr. On the same day J. F. Newlon was elected president, D. W. Clover vice-president, Nelson F. Carr secretary, and D. M. Clover, treasurer. On November 26, 1867, R. W. Wright was elected secretary in place of Mr. Carr, resigned. On February 10, 1868, a new board of directors having been elected, D. W. Clover was elected president, R. W. Wright, secretary, and A. L. Austin, treasurer. On January 9, 1869, J. F. Waskey was elected president, and M. Reed secretary of the company, and they remained the officers of the company during its further corporate existence.

#### ENCOURAGEMENTS TO IMPROVE.

To the town company thus organized and operated, Oswego owed a very large degree of her growth and prosperity. While the town company could secure no title to its site until the fall of 1869, it promised from the first liberal donations to all enterprises which it was believed would be for the public good. Each church organization was given lots of its own selection to an extent of 100 feet front; a half block was donated for a school-site; a building was erected and donated to the county for a court-house; a county jail was erected; donations were made to the first newspaper; and, until the close of 1869, anyone building a house of a certain dimension had donated to him the lot on which it stood.

#### STONE AND BRICK BUILDINGS.

The first stone building to be erected in the place was the school-house, in 1869. During this year the Congregational church was commenced, and finished about the close of the year. The first stone business house was erected on the southwest corner of block 32,

in the summer of 1869, by W. M. Johnson. The walls were laid that year, but it was not completed until 1870. In 1874 H. S. Coley, W. H. Robey and Nelson Case purchased lots 1 and 2, block 38, and laid a foundation thereon with a view of erecting a brick building. These parties sold the lots, however, to Samuel Carpenter, who erected the brick building now standing thereon; this was the first brick building in the place. One room of it was occupied June 1, 1875, by the firm of Montgomery & Carpenter as a store, and the other room was occupied by Hobart & Condon as a bank. In 1879 the Masons put up their temple on the west side of block 32. The opera house was built in 1879, on the north side of Fourth avenue. In 1880, after the fire on the west side of Commercial street, arrangements were made for the erection of brick buildings in their place, and during that season the entire east side of block 33, with the exception of the northeast corner building, was covered with a row of uniform brick buildings. The following year Mr. Symmes completed the row by the erection of the one at the north end. The city building, at the southeast corner of block 38, was commenced in 1883 and finished early in 1884. In 1887 L. Sawyer & Co. erected a fine two-story stone building on the east side of block 38. The First National Bank building was erected in 1885; this was the first three-story brick in town. In 1890 Mr. Knight put up a very fine three-story building at the southeast corner of block 25, in place of the old frame Oswego house. Oswego was thus furnished with one of the best hotels in this part of the State.

#### WATER-POWER.

It was believed by our citizens that the Neosho cut-off, commencing just below the

dam and running south near the foot of the bluff and striking the river again at a point as nearly as possible south from the place of beginning, would furnish an immense water-power. The river at this place taking such a large bend to the east, the fall in several miles of its flow could, it was thought, be concentrated into a comparatively short space by turning the channel down this cut-off. In 1871 a survey was made, and a report published that 19 feet of fall could thus be secured. But no steps were ever taken to make available this apparently wasting power, farther than to organize a company and make plans on paper. In January, 1874, W. T. Cunningham and others obtained a charter for the Oswego Canal and Manufacturing Company.

#### STORMS.

On the night of April 5, 1873, a severe hail storm came from the southwest, and broke nearly every pane of glass on the south and west sides in very nearly all the houses in town. The following day was Sunday and the town had a forlorn appearance. Not enough glass could be found in town to replace those broken, and for several days bed quilts and other garments furnished a conspicuous protection from the weather.

September 29, 1881, a wind storm in the nature of a cyclone passed over Oswego, scattering the lumber of Sharp's lumber yard, blowing down the porch at Mr. Tuttle's house, north of the Congregational church, and doing some other damage.

The town was visited by a tornado on July 7, 1895, which blew down the iron stand-pipe belonging to the water works.

#### FIRES.

The following fires occurred according to their respective dates: Jennings packing establishment, on July 2, 1879; the south end of the frame row on the west side of Commercial street, March 8, 1880; Grant's livery barn, with thirteen houses, February 18, 1882; "Frisco" depot, December 11, 1882; Miller's mill, February 21, 1884; the row of buildings opposite the Oswego House, February 10, 1886; Shotliff's wagon factory, April 27, 1885; Hall's flouring mill, January 14, 1886; Judge Barnes' dwelling house took fire and burned July 4, 1874; the Champion fire extinguisher, which had recently been purchased, had been taken that day to the celebration at Montana, and the fire company were much annoyed on reaching home and learning that in their absence this fire had taken place.

#### POSTOFFICE ELECTION.

November 28, 1870, a vacancy existing on account of J. D. Coulter, the postmaster, absconding, and there being several applicants for the position, an election was held to determine who should be appointed. A. W. Pickering, who had been Coulter's deputy, and who had charge of the office, was chosen over E. O. Kimball, J. W. Minturn, J. A. Miller, R. J. Elliott, and C. M. Gilkey. These were not in the days when the spirit of civil-service reform predominated, and the election cut no figure in the matter of the appointment.

#### LITERARY AND MUSICAL.

In the fall of 1870 Nelson Case, B. W. Perkins, H. C. Hall and some other parties organized for the purpose of securing lectures

and aiding in literary enterprises, and on October 6th, of that year, obtained a charter for the Oswego Library and Lecture Association. Under its auspices Henry Clay Dean delivered his lecture on "The Old Senate." This was about the extent of the work of this association.

On July 19, 1870, a musical association was formed, with E. W. Davis as president. They at once arranged to give a concert on September 9th. This concert proved to be a great success, and on October 24th and 26th they rendered the cantata of Queen Esther. February 27th, 1871, a brass band was organized under the leadership of William Wells. In January, 1872, Mr. Wells organized a ladies' cornet band, which soon became quite proficient, and was in favor at public entertainments. In January, 1873, Prof. Perkins held a musical institute. In May, 1874, a new musical institute was formed, of which J. A. Gates was president. On October 15, 1877, a musical institute commenced, under the direction of Prof. Teats, of New York. F. B. McGill, H. S. Coley, E. W. Ross, F. Beal and L. C. Howard worked hard for its success and it proved a great benefit in developing the musical talent of the town.

#### WORKMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

April 27, 1872, the mechanics and workmen of Oswego formed an association for their mental as well as financial improvement. J. A. Miller was elected president and George C. Sarvis secretary. F. B. McGill, David Branson and James T. Rierson were appointed a committee on lectures and educational matters. A reading-room was opened, and supplied with reading matter by the members bringing

books and periodicals, so that each had the advantages of what all controlled. It was not a very long-lived institution; its history, like that of so many undertakings, shows that it is easy to start almost any kind of an enterprise for the public welfare, but that if it is to be made permanent and to be a lasting benefit, some one must be willing to sacrifice himself for the good of others; such a person is not always to be found.

#### MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY.

About the last of January, 1874, a society was formed by those who had been inclined to dissipation, to assist in at least a partial reformation. They agreed not to drink, either not at all for a certain length of time, or to abstain from drinking under certain circumstances. It was said to have had quite a perceptible influence on its members, and, at least for a time, to have seriously affected the receipts of the saloons. William Wells was president and L. C. Howard secretary of the organization. A charter was obtained January 28, 1874.

#### THE AGASSIAN SOCIETY.

In 1873 a number of Oswego citizens who were somewhat inclined to literary and scientific studies organized a society for the purpose of study and the discussion of subjects in which they were interested and which might be deemed beneficial and of practical importance. Meetings were usually held weekly, at the residence of some of the members of the society. Some one was appointed to prepare a paper to be read at a subsequent meeting and the paper thus presented formed a basis for discussion. This society was kept up for

several years, and proved to be of very great interest and benefit. Among those who were prominently connected with the work were C. O. Perkins, Dr. W. S. Newlon, Mary A. Higby, Ferd. Beyle, F. B. McGill, together with many others who were less conspicuous in its workings.

#### OSWEGO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The Murphy temperance meetings which had been held during the fall of 1877 resulted in the organization of a society for the purpose of opening a reading-room. A donation of a few books and periodicals was secured, and a subscription was taken to raise money to pay the necessary expenses of opening the room. Nelson Case wrote an article which appeared in the *Independent*, in October, 1887, urging that steps be taken to make this reading-room, for which a start had been made, a permanent institution. His suggestion met with favor, and a committee was appointed to secure a charter. The charter having been prepared and properly signed and acknowledged, it was filed in the office of the Secretary of State on December 24, 1877. A board of 13 directors was appointed. On January 5, 1878, the directors met and organized, electing the following officers: President, C. O. Perkins; secretary, C. L. Wyman; treasurer, B. F. Hobart; executive committee, Nelson Case, chairman, Merrit Read, F. H. Atchinson. Mr. Perkins remained president as long as he lived. F. H. Atchinson, before the close of the first year, succeeded Mr. Wyman as secretary and continued to fill that position during the next nine years. Mr. Case remained chairman of the executive committee during its first ten years. Upon the death of Mr. Perk-

ins, on April 30, 1887, the duties of the president were performed by the chairman of the executive committee until the annual meeting in December of that year, when Nelson Case was elected president; J. R. Hill, secretary; C. M. Condon, treasurer; F. H. Atchinson, E. P. Sawyer and R. L. Sharp, executive committee. The following year Mr. Hill was made chairman of the executive committee in place of Mr. Atchinson, the other officers remaining as last announced, all of whom have held the same positions to the present. The association has maintained a free reading-room, kept open daily with very slight exceptions, from the time of its organization to the present. It has never invested very largely in books, but has acquired quite a fair library. Its tables have constantly been kept supplied with the best periodicals. For a number of years the association had its reading-room in the city building, but during later years it maintained its reading-rooms, in connection with the Y. M. C. A. rooms, in the center of the business part of town. The association has provided a course of literary entertainments, consisting of lectures and concerts, nearly every season since its organization. A number of the best lecturers on the platform have been secured, as well as first-class musical talent. In more recent years the policy of home lectures has been inaugurated, and some of the leading men of the State have been secured to give lectures in these courses. By this means the people have been furnished with a class of entertainments of high standard, and the association has reaped something of a revenue to assist in maintaining its reading-room. During the past few years the association has been partially disorganized, and has not done the aggressive work it did during its earlier history.



## GOVERNMENT.

On February 8, 1870, a majority of the residents having petitioned therefor, the probate judge made an order incorporating Oswego as a town, and appointed R. W. Wright, J. F. Waskey, Merrit Read, John F. Newlon and W. M. Johnson trustees. The trustees met February 23d, and organized by electing W. M. Johnson chairman, and appointed John D. Coulter clerk. Nelson Case was employed by the trustees as counsel, and assisted them in preparing ordinances.

On March 21, 1870, a census as taken, which showed more than 1,000 inhabitants in the town. An ordinance was passed declaring Oswego organized as a city of the third class. The first election was held April 4th, at which the following officers were elected: Mayor, J. F. Newlon; councilmen, D. W. Clover, R. W. Wright, William Wells, J. T. Pierson, and E. R. Trask. On April 6th the mayor and councilmen organized and held their first meeting. J. D. Coulter was appointed clerk; James R. Morrison, marshal, and F. A. Bettis, attorney. On March 16, 1871, an ordinance was passed declaring Oswego a city of the second class by virtue of chapter 59 of the laws of 1871, permitting certain cities therein named to organize as cities of the second class. The city has continued to act as a city of the second class from that time to the present. However, in 1890, in a case wherein Oswego township was plaintiff and Joseph Anderson was defendant, the supreme court decided that the act above referred to was unconstitutional, and therefore the organization as a city of the second class thereunder was illegal. In fact, it was always considered doubtful whether or not this act had any validity, and in 1880 the necessary steps were taken to secure an organization

as a city of the second class under the general laws. On June 18, 1880, the Government issued a proclamation declaring Oswego a city of the second class.

Mayors: 1870, J. F. Newlon; 1871, Merrit Read; 1872, J. F. Waskey; 1873-76, R. W. Wright; 1876-87, C. M. Condon; 1887-89, H. C. Cook; 1889-91, J. W. Marley; 1891-95, J. M. Grant; 1895-97, J. B. Montgomery; 1897-99, R. O. Deming; 1899-1901, George S. Liggett. Clerks: February 23d to August 15, 1870, J. D. Coulter; August 15, 1870, to February 6, 1871, J. B. Zeigler; E. E. Hastings was appointed, but did not qualify; March 10, 1871, to April 10, 1871, H. E. Porter; April 10, 1871, to May 16, 1872, C. F. Winton; May 16, 1872, to April 30, 1878, Nelson Case; May 6, 1878, to January 3, 1890, Thomas Bulwer; January 3, 1890, to April 10, 1891, J. D. H. Reed; April 10, 1891, to April 8, 1895, W. K. Orr; April 8, 1895, to April 16, 1897, J. W. Minturn; April 16, 1897, to April 8, 1898, W. K. Orr; April 15, 1898, to February 27, 1899, Jesse Richcreek; February 27, 1899, to April 6, 1900, L. H. Kemper; April 6, 1900, Marion Parks.

## BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

POTTERY.—In 1868 Mr. Shanks operated a pottery, and turned out several kilns of stoneware. In the spring of 1870, D. and C. E. Watts established a pottery in the east part of town, from which they sent out quite an amount of stone-ware that season.

PORK-PACKING.—Mr. Jennings was the first to start this enterprise. He erected a stone building in the southwest part of the town, in which, in 1878, he commenced the slaughter and packing of hogs. Edgar Leonard and George Schwartz succeeded Mr. Jennings in

the business. The establishment having been mostly destroyed by fire, the business was discontinued after having been conducted with a fair degree of success for two or three years.

**WAGON FACTORY.**—In June, 1882, J. Shotliff commenced work on his wagon factory in the south part of town, which was put in operation before the close of the year. Mr. Shotliff operated this until it was destroyed by fire in 1885. On account of the loss then sustained, he was unable to again commence business. During the time he was running his factory he turned out a large number of wagons, and did a good business.

While no one else has ever carried on the manufacture of wagons at this place on such an extensive scale as did Mr. Shotliff while he conducted the business, there have been others who have done a good business in a smaller way. During the lifetime of David Branson, he and Mr. Marsh made wagons. J. C. Patterson has been engaged in the business almost from the start of the town. Mr. Gordon and Mr. Peters have likewise been in the business, and W. K. Orr has conducted a carriage-trimming shop for many years.

**TILE FACTORY.**—In June, 1885, H. C. Draper moved his tile factory to Oswego from across the river, where he had operated it for several years.

**COTTON GIN.**—In November, 1888, D. S. and J. C. Romine and A. Chambers purchased machinery and commenced the operation of a cotton gin. On December 11, 1888, they shipped six bales of cotton over the "Frisco" to St. Louis, which was the first shipment from this point. The gin was run several years, but was finally moved to Chetopa. C. A. Wilkin was interested in its operation a part of the time.

A CHEESE FACTORY was started on the south side of Fourth avenue near the M. K. &

T. Ry. depot, in 1892, which it is hoped will prove successful; still for two or three years past little or no use has been made of it.

**CREAMERY.**—In 1899, a company was formed for the purpose of establishing a creamery. Most of the capital was furnished by farmers in the vicinity, who were interested in the enterprise. It is said to have been a profitable venture, and a great accommodation to those having milk to dispose of. Several auxiliary skimming stations are maintained.

**EVAPORATOR.**—Two or three parties have for a time conducted the business of drying and evaporating fruit. In 1892 a small plant was put in with the expectation of enlarging it and adding a canning factory.

#### MILLS.

In September, 1870, Macon, Krell & Cowell commenced the operation of their steam mill, the erection of which had been in progress for about a year. This firm were not able to continue the operation of their mill a great length of time, owing to financial embarrassment, and it was for a while in 1871 in the hands of Mr. Ross as receiver. The mortgage on the property was foreclosed, and the sale had through court. In October, 1873, R. S. Mathews became the owner of this mill. Subsequently, Miller & Sons purchased and ran this mill until it burned, early in 1884.

In October, 1870, Howell & Rathburn commenced the foundation of a three-and-one-half story frame flouring mill on the bank of the river north of Oswego, which was run by water except when the river was low. H. C. Hall became the owner of Mr. Rathburn's interest in this mill; the firm of Howell & Hall operated it until its destruction by fire, in January, 1886.

In June, 1881, Mr. Eickerman arranged for the erection of the brick mill in the west part of town, the walls of which were put up during the summer, and at the close of the year it was ready for business. Mr. Eickerman and G. W. Bird were the original proprietors. There have been several different ownerships of the mill. For some years past a corporation,—the Pearl Roller Mills,—in which S. B. Miller and G. W. Burdick are the principal stockholders, has owned and operated this mill, which is one of the largest and best equipped mills in this part of the state.

In the summer of 1892, Kiddoo, Black & Co. erected a new mill south of the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad, between Illinois and Michigan streets. This mill is now owned (principally or wholly) by C. M. Condon, and is known as the Oswego Roller Mill.

#### BANKS.

**THE FIRST BANK.**—The first bank in the county was started in Oswego, by W. M. Johnson, in October, 1868. During that year and the fore part of 1869 it was conducted on the north side of Fourth avenue. In the summer of 1869 he erected a small frame building on the northeast corner of block 38, in which he thereafter conducted the business. For a short time only A. L. Austin was associated with Mr. Johnson in the banking business. This bank continued to do business until the spring of 1870, when Mr. Johnson was forced to make an assignment. His failure was caused by attempting to build a town instead of confining himself to conducting a bank. He had great confidence in the outcome of the county and of the town, and expected to realize very large profits from the money he could invest in real estate. He secured two corners, viz., the southwest cor-

ner of block 32 and the northeast corner of block 38, and on these intended to erect, for the time, very fine buildings. He went far enough to get the walls completed for the building on the southwest corner of block 32, now owned by Mr. Perkins; in doing so he had used more money than he was able to control belonging to himself, and during the spring of 1870, when depositors were wanting their money, he found himself unable to cash their checks. Every dollar of his property was consumed, and still his creditors were far from being paid. What might have been a very profitable business proved his financial ruin, simply because he indulged in a spirit of speculation.

About the middle of July, 1870, B. F. Hobart and H. L. Taylor came to Oswego and opened the next bank that was started in the town. About July 1, 1871, Mr. Taylor retired from the business, and was succeeded by J. C. Longwell, Mr. Hobart's father-in-law. Mr. Longwell having died, the business came under the management of B. F. Hobart. On July 1, 1877, C. M. Condon became a partner of Mr. Hobart, and thereafter the firm of Hobart & Condon conducted the business until the summer of 1882, when Mr. Hobart sold his interest to Mr. Condon, who continued in sole control of the business until early in 1901, when he admitted his son, Wilbur F. Condon, as a member of the firm of Condon & Co. They have a very extensive business.

**STATE BANK OF OSWEGO.**—On August 18, 1870, the State Bank of Oswego, with a paid-up-capital of \$25,000, M. S. Adams being president and J. H. Folks cashier, commenced business. It only continued in business a few months, however, not finding a sufficient amount of business for two banks.

The next bank to open its doors to the public was that conducted by George Brockway

and H. C. Draper. It commenced business March 2, 1874. Mr. Draper desiring to retire, in 1876 C. F. Smith, upon the close of his official term as treasurer, became associated with Mr. Brockway in this bank, and afterwards, in March, 1877, the sole manager of the same. This bank discontinued business September 1, 1877.

In 1880 H. A. Marley and his son, J. W. Marley, opened a bank and loan office, which business they conducted until April 11, 1887, when they were succeeded by the First State Bank, which in turn was succeeded by

THE OSWEGO STATE BANK, on May 5, 1888. This bank has a paid-up capital of \$50,000, and has done a profitable business for a number of years. Its board of directors have been J. W. Marley, E. T. Reed, H. C. Cook, John M. Grant, Lee Williams, H. A. Marley. Fred Perkins; in 1891 Scott Taylor succeeded Mr. Cook.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK was chartered in July and opened its doors for business the last of August, 1883. Its first officers were R. P. Clement, president; J. B. Montgomery, vice-president; F. C. Wheeler, cashier; C. F. Winton, assistant cashier. In January, 1885, C. Abbey succeeded Mr. Clement as president. The last of 1886, Mr. Wheeler resigned, and was succeeded by H. C. Cook as cashier. On April 1, 1887, F. W. Keller became cashier, and served until September 16, 1890, when he was succeeded by J. M. Berry. On October 26, 1888, R. O. Deming was elected president, in which position he continued until the bank went out of existence. The bank was capitalized at \$60,000, and did a large and profitable business. It went into voluntary liquidation and dissolution in the fall of 1893, its stockholders preferring to organize under the state law. Its successor was

THE LABETTE COUNTY BANK.—This was incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000. R. O. Deming was president and J. M. Berry, cashier. In 1895, this bank went into voluntary liquidation, leaving two banks in the city.

#### LOAN AND INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

THE OSWEGO BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.—This institution was organized in June, 1884, with an authorized capital of \$50,000. H. C. Draper was president, L. C. Howard, secretary and E. T. Reed, treasurer.

THE DEMING INVESTMENT Co.—On the last of December, 1887, the Deming Investment Company was organized, and opened business on the first of January, 1888, with a paid-up capital of \$50,000, since which time it has been increased, and is now \$60,000. The firm of Winton & Deming had been in the loan business previous to this time for a number of years, and upon the organization of this company it succeeded to the business of said firm. Nelson Case has been president, and R. O. Deming treasurer and manager of this company from its organization.

THE EASTERN KANSAS INVESTMENT Co.—About the first of 1889, Fred Perkins, C. F. Winton, C. A. Wilkin, M. E. Williams, and a few other parties organized the Eastern Kansas Investment Co. for the purpose of conducting a loan business. The company has done a good business.

#### PARKS.

Upon laying out the town, the town company designated block 52 as the city park. For a number of years it remained entirely unimproved. A few years ago a number of the citizens undertook the work of its improvement, and set it out to trees. It now presents quite an attractive appearance.

## LADIES' ENTERTAINMENT SOCIETY.

On February 12, 1887, about 40 ladies of the city formed themselves into a ladies' entertainment society, with the following officers: Mrs. Mary E. Perkins, president; Mrs. Hettie C. Hall, vice-president; Mrs. Franc Wilkin, secretary; and Mrs. Anna Sharp, treasurer. The purpose of the organization was to secure a site for and to improve a park. A number of entertainments were held, by means of which some money was raised, and in addition to this quite a sum was raised by subscription. A tract of ground was selected and purchased lying on the bluff of the river north of the city and east of the water-works engine house. This is about as far as the society has ever gone in its work of providing a park. There are a number of locations near the city with sufficient natural advantages to make a delightful resort, were a reasonable amount of money expended upon the improvements.

## STREETS AND SIDEWALKS.

For several years the only sidewalks in town consisted of platforms in front of the stores and public buildings. As the space between these buildings grew less by the erection of other new buildings, the platforms were connected and planks put down, so that there was a continuous sidewalk on the principal street so far as the stores extended.

As early as July 21, 1870, notice was given by direction of the council for the construction of certain sidewalks, but no further action was ever taken thereunder. The first sidewalk constructed outside the *business* part of town, and the first one built by direction of the city council, was on Illinois street, extending from block 9 in Johnson & Folks' addition,

to the Methodist church. This was built in pursuance of an order made by the council on March 6, 1874, on the petition of the requisite number of property-holders along the line. From this time on, sidewalks began to be gradually petitioned for and to be built over the residence part of the town, and for several years past nearly all streets of the city that are thickly inhabited have been supplied with good sidewalks.

During the summer of 1878 Commercial street was graded from Fourth avenue to the Frisco depot, and put in good condition for travel. It was not until June, 1885, that a good plank sidewalk was laid on the south side of Fourth avenue from Commercial street to the M. K. & T. Ry. depot.

During 1897 and 1898 especially, and to a certain extent since then, a great improvement has been made in the sidewalks of the city. A large amount of brick sidewalk has been laid. In addition to this improvement in sidewalks, Fourth avenue has been macadamized from Commercial street to the M. K. & T. Ry. depot; this work was done in 1898.

## TREES.

Few cities are better supplied with shade trees than is Oswego. All of the principal streets were at an early day set out with lines of trees, which have made a good growth, and now furnish abundant shade. The yards are also supplied with beautiful shade and ornamental trees, and in the summer the place presents almost the appearance of a city built in a forest.

## TELEPHONE.

Early in 1882 a telephone plant was put in operation, connecting many of the business and

dwelling houses, and was quite extensively used. During the summer a line was put in connecting Oswego with Parsons, which was completed July 20th. This plant was only used for a few months to any great extent, and after a time all of the instruments were taken out.

In 1896, and since then, telephonic communication between the various towns in the county, and with distant cities was resumed, and has been maintained and extended, so that at this time one can send messages over these lines to almost any point in the country.

#### WATER-WORKS.

During 1887 a system of water-works was constructed, supplying the city with water from the Neosho river north of town. They were put in operation in the fall, and were accepted by the city about the last of November.

#### ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

An electric light plant was put in during the spring and summer of 1888. On July 12th of that year the lights were first turned on. After being run a few months, its operation was for a time suspended. A change of ownership, however, was had, and the lights were soon again turned on, and have been in operation ever since. At the time the electric light plant was put into operation, the city contracted for the lighting of its streets by arc lights, but street lighting by electricity proved to be too expensive for the revenues of the city, and so was discontinued after a trial of two or three years. The incandescent lights in dwellings and business houses are maintained.

#### NATURAL GAS

Has been found but not in sufficient quantities to be utilized.

#### INDEBTEDNESS.

For a great many years Oswego was greatly burdened with its bonded indebtedness. When the M. K. & T. Ry. was constructed in 1870, Oswego township, including the city, gave the company \$100,000 in bonds to secure the road. A few years later the township and city united voted bonds to the amount of \$80,000 to secure an east and west road, now known as the St. L. & S. F. R. R. All of the \$80,000 issue of bonds were executed and part of them were delivered to the contractors who had done grading; the rest were put in escrow, and subsequently a few of them were returned to the officers, but the most of them became outstanding liabilities against the township. The construction of the road was suspended for several years. To secure the completion of the road, besides a large contribution in cash by individuals, Oswego city issued \$30,000 in bonds and Oswego township, \$15,000 in bonds. For the purpose of bridging the Neosho, the township and city issued \$20,000. In addition to all this, the city issued \$18,000 for the construction of the two school-houses we are now using.

Most of these bonds were bearing a high rate of interest, and none a rate less than 6 per cent. To pay this indebtedness was beyond the power of the people residing in these municipalities. For many years no payment whatever was made on principal or interest of the railroad and bridge bonds. Litigation ensued which greatly increased the burden. The



interest was all the time accumulating, and before anything was done toward solving the difficulty the indebtedness was, perhaps, much more than double what it had been originally.

Finally, in 1885, efforts to effect a compromise of the principal part of this indebtedness were successful. The last issue of bonds to the east and west road and the school bonds were not included in the compromise and were to be paid in full. But the \$100,000 M. K. & T., \$80,000 M. C. & N. W., \$20,000 bridge bonds, making \$200,000 principal, and probably as much more in accumulated interest, were taken up, and in their place \$154,000 funding bonds of the city and township were issued.

On these funding bonds the interest was paid somewhat regularly; still there was more litigation and costs were incurred, and quite an amount of interest was allowed to accumulate. In 1897 these municipalities started in to relieve themselves of indebtedness. A small amount had been paid prior thereto, but nearly all of the indebtedness above recited was then outstanding. The people heroically imposed on themselves a rate of taxation which, to name, would seem impossible to endure. For four years this extraordinary rate of debt paying has been going on, and now the people have the satisfaction of knowing the debt is reduced to \$85,000, which on the basis they have been giving will in four more years be entirely extinguished.

### PARSONS.

#### THE COMMENCEMENT.

On June 19, 1869, W. K. Hayes located on the north half of the southwest quarter of section 19, North township, and in connection with Milton W. Eves opened a small stock of

general merchandise. Mr. Hayes was on September 25, 1869, appointed postmaster of a new postoffice established at that point and named Mendota—"the place of meeting." Whether it was the place of meeting of the two branches of the Labette, or the two branches of the M. K. & T., neither of the latter of which was then located, or of the traveling public, perhaps it is too early to write with interest. When a hundred years of tradition and myth shall have gathered round it, the future historian can write a chapter upon the founding of the office which will be read with delight. But as a sober, historical fact, and to somewhat curtail the wings of mythology, it may be recorded that it was because of the proximity of the site to the confluence of the Big and Little Labette that the name Mendota was chosen. In the winter of 1869 Mr. Hayes took his goods to a house he had built farther south, near Steel's mill, at the junction of the two Labettes; but in the spring he removed back to his old stand.

In 1870 J. J. Pierson succeeded Mr. Eves as a partner of Mr. Hayes, and the firm Hayes & Pierson continued in business at this point until November, 1870, when, the town-site of Parsons having been located, they moved to a point on the east side of the railroad track, northeast of the passenger depot, and just north of where the Belmont House now stands.

#### THE SITE.

Sections 18 and 19 in North township, and 13 and 24 in Walton township, formed the body of land selected by the company on which to lay out a town. Most of this land was already occupied by actual settlers, some of whom had acquired, or could obtain, title, and some of whom had only a squatter's right.

John Leonard was on the southeast quarter of section 19, Abraham Fults on the northeast quarter, John Kendall on the northwest quarter, W. K. Hayes on the north half and Aaron Midkiff on the south half of the southwest quarter of the same section; John Davis was on the northeast quarter of section 18, Abraham Cary on the northwest quarter, and Mr. Simpson on the southwest quarter of the same section; Anson Kellogg was on the southwest quarter and S. Eves on the northeast quarter of section 24; Henry F. Baker was on the southeast quarter of section 13, and H. L. Partridge on the southwest quarter and George Briggs on the northwest quarter of the same section. Some of the remainder was claimed by non-residents. Several of these parties were unwilling to dispose of their interest, and negotiations to secure title were in progress for some time.

#### THE SITE SELECTED.

The first intimation that the public generally had that a town was to be located at this point was on October 26, 1870, when L. F. Olney, a civil engineer, got off the train and inquired of some parties at work on the ground where the city of Parsons is now built, if they could tell him where Parsons was located, saying he had come to lay off a town. Nothing was done by him for several days excepting to look over the ground and make observations. On Sunday, November 6, 1870, C. G. Wait, the railroad engineer, located the connection of the Sedalia and Junction City branches of the M. K. & T., and two days later Frye & Pierce, grade contractors, broke dirt at this junction. It was known that here was to be the railroad town, and, before the survey commenced, in addition to two or three

business houses which preceded it, on November 11, 1870, John Austin had on the ground the first dwelling put thereon, aside from those which were there at the time of the location. He put it upon what proved to be the northeast corner of Central and Crawford avenues, and at once occupied it for a dwelling, and also for keeping boarders. In front of this building the next spring he set out some maple trees, which were the first trees planted in the place. On these premises Dr. G. W. Gabriel has for many years had his home. It was about the middle of November when Mr. Olney commenced the survey of the town-site, and it was not completed until about the middle of January.

#### THE TOWN COMPANY.

Isaac T. Goodnow, N. S. Goss, F. C. White, O. B. Gunn, Norman Eastman and Robert S. Stevens were the incorporators of the town company. The charter was filed in the office of the Secretary of State October 24, 1870, and authorized the company to purchase lands and lay off a town at and adjacent to section 19, township 31, range 20. The company was formed expressly for the purpose of laying off and building a railroad town. It was believed that the junction of the two branches of the M. K. & T. was the most feasible point for the location of a town, where would almost certainly be located the machine shops and offices. Of course these parties knew the point where this junction must be made before their incorporation, for not only was section 19 designated in the charter as the central point, but their surveyor was on the ground before the railroad engineer had actually designated the connecting point. The intention being to have a railroad town, of course no more appro-

prate name could have been selected than that of the president of the road, who would thereby, if for no other reason, be interested in its support and growth.

#### DIFFICULTIES.

The town having been located, the company soon encountered difficulties in acquiring title to as large a body of land as they hoped to secure, and we may readily believe that it was for the purpose of influencing these parties to make terms that the action of the town company—an account of which is given below—was taken, rather than with any serious intention of carrying out the determination therein expressed, for no steps were taken looking to an abandonment of the site which had been selected and partly surveyed; but for some purpose, probably by the company's direction, certain resolutions by it adopted were published in several papers, and more or less was said through the press on "Parsons defunct." I will here refer to what appeared in but one paper, although the same was copied in the county papers and more or less commented on.

Near the close of 1870 the following appeared in the Humboldt *Union*.

"NEOSHA FALLS, KAN., Dec. 22.

"EDS. UNION: Inclosed you have resolutions passed by the directors of Parsons Town Company, and confirmed by the president of the M. K. & T. Co. You will see that the present town-site of Parsons is abandoned, as the orders are to erect not even a station house there. If you think these facts are of sufficient interest to your readers, you are at liberty to publish the accompanying resolutions.

"Very respectfully,

"I. T. GOODNOW.

"At a meeting of the board of directors of the Parsons Town Company, held at Sedalia, Mo., on the 14th inst., the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, The Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company having decided to locate its machine shops and other important buildings elsewhere than at the junction of its Sedalia and Neosho divisions, thus rendering the building up of any large town at the junction impracticable:

"Resolved, That the board of directors of the Parsons Town Company hereby abandon all idea of locating or building a town on sections 18 or 19, in town 31, of range 19 east, or anywhere in the vicinity, the decision of said railway company above referred to rendering such action necessary.

"Resolved, That the treasurer of said town company is hereby directed to sell all lands intended for town-site purposes at such price as he may deem fit and proper, at the earliest day practicable.

"R. S. STEVENS, *President*.

"JNO. R. WHEAT, *Secretary*."

#### SALE OF LOTS.

The difficulties encountered by the company in acquiring title having been overcome, and the plat having been surveyed and placed on record, the sale of lots commenced on March 8, 1871. Prior to this time all who had located had done so without any written permission or promise of obtaining title, but with the understanding that when the company had perfected its arrangements, they would be entitled to procure their lots at a reasonable price. There was quite a strife for the honor of being the purchaser of the first lot. Colonel Willard Davis was the agent of the town com-

pany, and Abraham Cary was successful in bringing enough influence to bear to get from him the first deed issued by the town company. It was for lots 14, 15 and 16 in block 42, where the opera house now stands. The other parties on the ground obtained title as fast as deeds could be executed and terms agreed on, and from this time on the permanency of building and business was assured.

#### BUSINESS HOUSES.

When so many were coming in about the same time, and no records of the names when locations were made having been kept, it is difficult to speak with certainty as to the precise order in which firms were established, and as to who is entitled to the honor of being the first one to open up his line of business in the new town, but the old settlers seem to agree substantially upon the following: Sipple Brothers, from Dayton, and Hayes & Pierson, from Mendota, were on the ground about the same time, and there is a difference of opinion as to which was there first.

Aside from the houses that have been placed by the settlers prior to the location of the town, the first house to be put upon the town-site, probably, was a store building belonging to William H. and John I. Sipple, which they had put up during the summer at Dayton, some five or six miles below Parsons, and which they moved on wagons and located upon what was afterwards laid off as lots 1, 2 and 3, in block 19, subsequently occupied by the Abbott House. They arrived with their building on November 5, 1870, and were the first to open a stock of goods, which consisted principally of groceries and provisions. If I am right in assigning Sipple Brothers the first location, then the next store to be opened was

by Hayes & Pierson, who almost immediately after the arrival of Sipple Brothers, if they did not precede them, removed their little frame building from where Mr. Hayes had at one time kept store, at Steel's mill at the forks of the Labette, as already described, and located it on the east side of the railroad track, just about where the Belmont House now stands, and opened therein a general stock of merchandise. The building afterwards formed a part of the Belmont premises. E. K. Currant brought his store building from Dayton and located it upon what became lot 1 of block 25, on Skiddy, now Washington avenue. He associated with him in business Messrs. Cook and Allen, and opened out the most extensive stock of general merchandise that was then kept in town. Adam Gebert and Abraham Cary located on lot 2, block 25, next to Mr. Currant, and opened the first hardware store in town. The first lumber yard to be started was put in by Melville, Plato & Co.; and the first drugs were sold by T. R. Warren, who came from Leavenworth county, and before the close of the year had put up a small building on the northwest corner of Washington and Central avenues, and had placed therein a stock of drugs. The houses from Dayton had only just arrived when those from Ladore, located about the same distance north as Dayton was south, began to make their appearance. It was said that from 50 to 75 houses were moved from Ladore during the winter.

#### BOARDING-HOUSES AND HOTELS.

At the time of the location of the town, Henry F. Baker was living in a log house where the roundhouse now stands; and the town was scarcely located until John Austin moved his dwelling-house down from Ladore:



THIRD COUNTY JAIL; ERECTED 1890.

SECOND COUNTY JAIL; ERECTED 1879.

COURT HOUSE; ERECTED 1890.

A VIEW OF THE SOUTH SIDE AND REAR END OF THE COURT HOUSE IS HERE GIVEN, IN ORDER THAT THE VIEW OF THE JAILS MIGHT ALSO BE SHOWN.





and placed it on the northeast corner of Central and Crawford avenues. Both of them at once commenced keeping boarders. Mrs. Catharine Hurton soon after erected a respectable-looking building, which she opened up as a boarding-house. W. P. Squires was on the ground about the same time; Finus Smith had a two-story 24 by 40 feet building at Ladore, which he tore down and brought to Parsons, and erected it on the northwest corner of Central and Johnson avenues. The proprietors of all of these houses, as well as several parties who only had tents, were furnishing board in November, 1870. It was not long until the Parsons House was opened up by Knapp, Noyes & Chamberlain. On March 8, 1871, E. B. Stevens and U. L. C. Beard commenced the erection of the Belmont House; the same month the Lockwood was commenced, and finished so as to be opened on the 8th of May. It was not until June 1, 1872, that J. C. Karr commenced the construction of the St. James, on the northwest corner of Central and Forest avenues. This was a three-story brick—one of the finest buildings in the city. Of the numerous other houses which followed these I will not attempt to speak, only to mention that about 1880 the Abbott House became the principal hotel in the city, and thus remained until the Matthewson House was erected, in 1886.

#### SALOONS.

The saloon-keeper was not long behind anyone else who proposed to start business in the new town. John Austin, Wm. Dana, Z. T. Swigert, Chas. Hazard, and probably others whose names I have not learned, were all on the ground engaged in the sale of liquor in November, 1870. Mr. Hazard moved a two-story building from Ladore and located it on

the north side of Johnson avenue next to Smith's hotel, which stood on the corner. This was the first building moved from Ladore.

#### OTHER PIONEER HOUSES.

Conrad Hinkle and wife Lena were the first to furnish meat to the new comers. For a time they brought it in a wagon, but soon had a general meat shop opened. Dr. C. B. Kennedy removed a large livery stable from Ladore and located it on what became block 110, where the Catholic church was later constructed. J. Moore had the first furniture store; Fred Walker opened the first blacksmith shop; and Walker & Thomas were the first real-estate agents. B. Sandercook was the first shoemaker; W. G. Douglas was the first tailor; E. P. Flummer opened the first bakery; A. J. Peabody was the first harness-maker. Most of these houses were in operation before the close of 1870, and all of them when the sale of lots commenced, in March, 1871.

#### PROFESSIONAL MEN.

A. L. Hutchison and T. R. Warren were the contestants for the honor of being the first physician in the town; and of attorney, J. G. Parkhurst, T. V. Thornton and E. E. Hastings could hardly tell who was there first—but perhaps the race was won by Mr. Parkhurst.

#### THE FIRST RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The first religious services of a public nature upon what became the town-site were held in Abraham Cary's log house on the northwest quarter of section 18, in North township, in the summer of 1870, conducted by A.

W. King, of Osage township. Mr. King preached here frequently during the summer and fall. John Leonard, who lived on the southeast quarter of 19, was a Christian preacher, and sometimes preached in Mr. Cary's house after King had commenced holding services. The first sermon preached in the town proper was over Mr. Hazard's saloon, on December 15, 1870, by A. W. King. Rev. H. H. Cambern was the next preacher on the ground. No religious exercises of any kind were held regularly during the winter of 1870 and 1871. There was no place provided for holding such services, and whenever they were held it was in some business room temporarily fixed up for the purpose—probably in a saloon almost as frequently as in any other room. Of the organization and building of the various churches, I speak in another part of the work.

#### GOVERNMENT.

On February 22, 1871, on the petition of Simon Saddler and others, the probate judge made an order incorporating the town of Parsons, and appointed Abraham Cary, E. K. Currant, J. G. Parkhurst, John I. Sipple and John W. Rhodus as trustees. Thomas V. Thornton was the first clerk appointed by the trustees; H. L. Partridge was justice of the peace in Walton township at the time of the settlement of Parsons, and became the first justice of the peace in Parsons. From November 8, 1870, to March 8, 1871, he tried seven criminal and 26 civil cases. He also married the first couple in town, they being Z. T. Swigert and Josephine E. Parker.

The town was organized as a city of the third class, and on April 17, 1871, the first city election was held, at which the following

officers were elected: Mayor, Willard Davis; police judge, H. L. Partridge; councilmen, Abraham Cary, William Dana, Charles Watson, S. B. Plato, and John W. Rhodus. The first meeting of the mayor and council was held April 28, 1871. On organizing, G. C. West was appointed city clerk. The city having attained a population of over 2,000 inhabitants, the evidence of which was furnished by a census taken by order of the city council, the Governor issued his proclamation, dated February 25, 1873, declaring Parsons a city of the second class.

Since the organization of the city it has had the following mayors and clerks: Mayors—April 17 to November 22, 1871, Willard Davis; November 22, 1871, to April, 1874, E. B. Stevens; April, 1874, to April, 1875, Angell Matthewson; April, 1875, to April, 1877, G. W. Gabriel; April, 1877, to April, 1879, P. Y. Thomas; April, 1879, to April, 1881, J. W. Thompson; April 1881, to April, 1885, G. W. Gabriel; April, 1885, to April, 1887, A. O. Brown; April, 1887, to April, 1889, G. W. Gabriel; April, 1889, to April, 1891, A. F. Neely; April, 1891, to April, 1895, J. M. Gregory; April, 1895, to April, 1897, E. B. Stevens; April, 1897, to April, 1899, C. K. Leinbach; April, 1899, to April, 1901, C. Rockhold. Clerks—April to November 22, 1871, G. C. West; November 22, 1871, to April, 1872, H. L. Partridge; April, 1872, to April, 1873, Edgar E. Hastings; April, 1873, to April, 1875, G. W. Hawk; April, 1875, to April, 1876, A. M. Fellows; April, 1876, to March, 1877, Frank L. Gage; March, 1877, to April, 1878, E. S. Stevens; April, 1878, to April 1882, A. A. Osgood; April, 1882, to April, 1883, R. T. Holloway; April, 1883, to October, 1884, Ira F. Adams; October, 1884, to May, 1885, Will W. Frye; May, 1885, to

April, 1887, N. F. Mills; April, 1887, to April 1889, Mrs. Mary S. Outland; April, 1889, to April, 1891, R. D. Talbot; April, 1891, to April, 1895, A. H. Tyler; April, 1895, to April, 1897, Maurice Davis; April, 1897, to January 8, 1901, James T. Weaver; January 8, 1901, Maurice Davis was appointed to fill the vacancy.

#### LITERARY, MUSICAL, ETC.

On November 2, 1871, a meeting was held which decided upon organizing a literary society and library association. On the 8th of the same month the organization was completed by electing W. H. Maxwell president and A. B. Truman secretary. During the winter literary exercises were maintained, participated in by the leading men of the town. On December 29th the library received its first donation of books, amounting to 22 volumes, and during the next few weeks several other donations were made of a like character. On October 26, 1872, the association held its first annual meeting, and re-elected W. K. Maxwell president, and elected E. B. Stevens vice-president, and James Wells, Jr., secretary. This seems to have ended the efforts at that time for the establishment and maintenance of a library.

In the summer of 1879 a new lyceum was organized, and Rev. P. M. Griffin elected president. Literary exercises were conducted by it for some months.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

In 1877 Mrs. Ella B. Wilson, Mrs. Kate Grimes and Mrs. Polly L. Cory secured the formation of a library association. In this association they remained, as I am informed, the controlling spirits, Mrs. Wilson taking the

principal part in its management. She traveled over a large part of the United States, soliciting funds for the erection of a building, as well as books and works of art for the foundation of a library. Large sums of money were contributed, and very fine donations of books, statuary and other articles of interest and value were gathered. Practically it was a gift of the country generally to Parsons at the earnest solicitation of one woman. With the funds thus contributed as a basis of operation, a site was secured on the southeast corner of Forest avenue and Nineteenth street, on lots 14, 15 and 16, in block 53, and the erection thereon of the building started. A loan of \$10,000 was procured, and the lots and building mortgaged to secure the payment of the same. A very fine three-story building was erected and finished, which, on December 25, 1883, was formally opened by appropriate exercises, among which was an address by Governor Glick.

In the second story of this building were placed the books and works of art which had been contributed, and it was believed the hardest part of the work was then accomplished of securing a large, prosperous and permanent library. But times changed; contributions of money did not come in; there was no means provided for paying the indebtedness contracted in the erection of the building; the mortgage was foreclosed, the property sold, and the seeming bright prospect for a great library vanished from sight.

#### BAR ASSOCIATION.

On January 24, 1872, the attorneys in town established a bar association, and for some weeks thereafter had public lectures from its members on different phases of law.

## THE PIONEER ASSOCIATION

Was organized in the *Sun* office, March 8, 1872. Dr. T. R. Warren was the first president.

## ALPHA LITERARY SOCIETY.

On November 17, 1880, a number of ladies met at the home of Mrs. T. P. Atchison and organized a society under the name given above. The following officers were elected: Mrs. David Kelso, president; Mrs. M. F. Stevens, secretary; Mrs. W. H. Wagoner, treasurer. The society has maintained a continuous existence, and has done a great amount of literary work.

## MACAULAY CLUB.

This society was organized December 8, 1881. Miss Phrone Emery was its first president, and Mrs. Jennie Davis, secretary. It was at first called the Young Ladies' Reading Society, but in September, 1885, was named the Macaulay Club. Since then it has been an active factor in the literary work of Parsons.

## ATHENEUM READING CIRCLE.

The existence of this circle dates from the spring of 1883, when five ladies began reading together without any formal organization. On October 24th of that year a number of new members were admitted to the circle, a formal organization was had, and the following officers elected: Mrs. Wells H. Utley, president; Mrs. B. B. Brown, vice-president; and Miss Emma June, secretary and treasurer. The active membership is limited to 16. Its object is purely literary.

## BANKS.

**BANKING HOUSE OF ANGELL MATTHEWSON.**—On June 6, 1871, S. P. Crawford and Angell Matthewson, of Parsons, and W. P. Bishop, of Oswego, formed a partnership, and on June 19th opened the bank of Crawford, Matthewson & Co. The first depositor was Oliver Duck; the first draft was issued to Curran, Cook & Allen. On July 31st Mr. Matthewson purchased the interest of the other two partners, and the business continued under the name of the Banking House of Angell Matthewson.

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK.**—On April 8, 1872, Matthewson's Bank was succeeded by the First National Bank, of which A. D. Jaynes, of Sedalia, Mo., was president, and Angell Matthewson, cashier. This bank had a paid-up capital of \$50,000, and started with over \$37,000 in deposits turned over to it by Matthewson's bank. On January 19, 1875, R. S. Stevens succeeded Mr. Jaynes as president. During January and February, 1877, while Mr. Matthewson was in the Senate, George W. Hawk, the teller, performed the duties of cashier. January 1, 1879, Lee Clark succeeded Mr. Matthewson as cashier, and held the position until October, 1890, when he became president, F. C. Stevens having been president immediately preceding him. E. B. Stevens became cashier on July 1, 1890, and still retains the position.

**THE PARSONS SAVINGS BANK** was organized in May, 1874, with Augustus Wilson president, and Joshua Hill, cashier; having a paid-up capital of \$50,000. The first draft was issued to A. W. Gifford. On July 1, 1878, this bank was reorganized as

**THE PARSONS COMMERCIAL BANK,** of

which Joshua Hill was president and George W. Hawk cashier. The latter has continued to fill the position of cashier ever since. For several years past E. H. Edwards has been president of the bank. It has long been one of the established institutions of the city.

**CITY BANK OF ANGELL MATTHEWSON & Co.**—This bank was organized May 1, 1879, with a capital of \$20,000; Angell Matthewson and Merrit Noyes being the owners. On October 1, 1880, F. H. Snyder was admitted to the partnership and made cashier. Mr. Noyes died in 1883, and in November, 1884, Wm. H. Taylor was admitted to the partnership and the capital stock made \$60,000, which was increased to \$100,000 on February 1, 1888. L. E. Weeks was appointed cashier September 1, 1891. The firm failed in 1893, and the bank went out of existence.

**THE STATE BANK OF PARSONS** was organized in 1900 with a capital stock of \$25,000. O. H. Stewart is president and F. H. Foster is cashier.

#### BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.

On July 14, 1879, the Parsons Building and Loan Association was organized, of which C. A. King was president, and J. G. Gray, secretary.

#### INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

There are several parties engaged in loaning money, among them being Angell Matthewson and George H. Ratcliff.

#### SANITARY.

During the early part of 1884 much complaint had been made about the condition in which the private and public premises, as well

as many of the private alleys and yards, were kept, and the *Eclipse* was especially vigilant in looking after and giving publicity to these grievances. In July of that year the mayor and council appointed J. B. Lamb health officer. It was thought by some that this appointment was made rather as a burlesque in retaliation for the frequent appeals to the authorities to do a general cleaning up; but whatever was the spirit that prompted the move, it turned out to be a very wise one. The Doctor went at the work vigorously, and did good work in securing the cleaning up of the filth which had been allowed to accumulate, and probably saved the place a great amount of sickness. The work thus commenced showed the advisability of having some permanent arrangement for removal of filth and the preservation of the public health.

#### SEWERAGE.

In 1885 steps were taken to put in a system of sewerage, and this was pushed forward until the business part of the city was well supplied with the means for the removal of all filth and the carrying away of the waste water. Later the system was made general for the city, so that now most of the inhabitants are favored with this convenience.

#### WATER WORKS.

During the summer of 1882 the matter of supplying the city with water was discussed, and a company was formed for the purpose of carrying out the contemplated project. On September 15th, by an almost unanimous vote of the electors, the city gave its assent and promised aid. During the following year the works were put in under the general direction

of C. W. Hill, but it was not until July, 1884, that they were completed and accepted by the city. Reservoirs were made upon the banks of the Labette some distance above the city, from which stream the water was procured. The city paid \$3,000 per year for 50 hydrants. Soon after the completion of the works, C. H. Kimball and E. H. Edwards became the principal owners of the stock of the company and had the general management of its business. The operation of the works under the original construction never gave general satisfaction, and they were believed to be far inadequate to meet the city's needs. Early in 1892 steps were taken to secure a better supply by obtaining water from the Neosho instead of from the Labette. Mains were laid from the Neosho to the old reservoirs on the Labette and into the city. A new stand-pipe, one of the largest in the State, was erected in the city, and under the present arrangements the water system is very complete.

#### GAS.

On December 11, 1882, the city council passed an ordinance giving an exclusive franchise for twenty-one years to Angell Matthewson to construct and operate gas works. The franchise was assigned to the Parsons Light & Heat Company, and in 1883 the works were completed, since which time those who desired it have been supplied with gas.

#### NATURAL GAS.

Since 1898 the city has been supplied with natural gas piped from Neodesha, which gas is largely used for heating and lighting.

#### ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

On May 25, 1887, an ordinance was passed authorizing J. J. Everingham to erect electric

works in the city of Parsons, and within a month thereafter this franchise was transferred to the Parsons Light & Heat Company, which was operating the gas plant. A system of arc lights was at once put in, and put in operation on September 25th. In the summer of 1892 the incandescent system of lights was added, and the capacity of the plant much enlarged.

#### TELEPHONE.

In 1882 a system of telephones was put in providing for communication in the various parts of the city, and also a line was built connecting the city with Oswego; and on July 20th of that year Mayors Gabriel and Condon exchanged congratulations. The line between Parsons and Oswego was not maintained for any great length of time, nor was the city system very largely used after a few months of trial. In 1896 the telephone communication with other towns was again inaugurated, since which time the system has become quite popular.

#### STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

One of the wisest investments made by the city in the way of improvement was that of building sidewalks and macadamizing its streets. The work of macadamizing commenced in 1878, and was gradually pushed forward for the next two or three years, until the streets in the principal business part of town were all macadamized, and good sidewalks have been laid in nearly all of the streets that have any large amount of travel. During the past few years the macadamizing of the streets has been very greatly extended, as well as the improvement and construction of new sidewalks.

#### STONE AND BRICK BUILDINGS.

The first building to be erected of material



other than wood was put up early in 1871, on block 25, on the north side of Johnson avenue, by Ed. Foley. It was constructed out of cut sandstone, and made a very creditable appearance. The first brick buildings in town were erected in 1872. They were the passenger depot, the First National Bank building, the St. James Hotel on the corner north from the First National Bank, and the second ward school-house. The same year two or three brick business houses were put up—one by W. C. Calkins, on lots 13 and 14, block 33, and one by A. Royer, on lot 1, block 34. During this year T. C. Cory tore down his brick residence at Ladore and rebuilt it on the southeast quarter of section 24. This was the first brick residence in town.

#### THE HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS

Was incorporated January 15, 1896. A. A. Osgood served as president the first two years, and Dr. C. Rockhold since then. The State has made an annual appropriation of \$700 for several years past to help support this institution. The building formerly used for the Hobson Institute was purchased for and is now occupied by the Home.

#### STATE INSANE ASYLUM.

In 1899, under provisions of an act of the Legislature, a commission located a new insane asylum at Parsons. Litigation ensued that delayed the commencement of the work, but under the new appropriation made by the Legislature in 1901 work on the institution will soon be begun.

#### FIRES.

On October 7, 1871, the *Sun* published an

article advising the people to turn out the first still day and burn around the town to protect it from fires. I do not know whether or not this advice was heeded, but it seems that no damage resulted from fire from that quarter.

During the history of the city there have been several quite extensive fires, but none that were at all destructive; in fact, most of them, in the business part of the city, while they may have damaged individuals, were a public benefit so far as the city was concerned, for it secured in the place of the buildings destroyed, others of a very much better quality. One of the first, if not the first fire in town to do any large amount of damage, was the burning of John Rhodus' boarding-house. On July 29, 1875, a fire occurred on Fourth avenue which destroyed nine business houses. The loss by this fire was estimated to be from \$75,000 to \$100,000. On December 26, 1875, the Lockwood House was burned; and on May 23, 1883, the City Hotel, which was one of the original hotels. Among the losses that have occurred from fire have been several of the mills and factories; one of the largest of which was on August 1, 1892, being the destruction of the National Mills. A number of other quite extensive fires have taken place at various times, the particulars of which I have not learned.

#### MACHINE SHOPS.

Of all the enterprises which have contributed to the prosperity of Parsons, none have approached that of the railroad influence, and especially the machine shops thereof. Work on the machine shops commenced in October, 1871, and by the close of 1872 they were completed and ready for operation. The round-house was not completed until May, 1873.

# EDUCATIONAL

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

### THE FIRST SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY.

An account of the first school in the county, while not a public school, is still necessary for a history of our educational growth. Of this school I will let one of its founders, Dr. George Lisle, give the account, which is as follows:

"On or about the middle of May, 1858, James Childers, George Walker, William Blythe, Larkin McGhee, Benjamin Todd, Millard Rogers, John McMurtrie, James Hetherington and myself got together and concluded to build a school-house that would be large enough to have preaching in as often as we could get the preacher. A committee was appointed to select a site and fix upon size of house and call the people together to approve the same. The next Saturday was appointed, and everybody turned out and agreed to build it at a small spring in a branch one and one-half miles south of where Chetopa now stands. The people agreed to meet and go to work on Monday morning, which they did with such success that by Saturday night they had a house 22 by 24 feet square, floored with puncheons, seated and desked with the same, covered and lined with split and shaved clapboards; door and window fastenings were of boards cut with a whip-saw; and on Sunday it

was dedicated in order. On Monday Joseph C. Henry commenced a school by the month, which he kept up almost one year; then Jeff. Jackson taught one term of three months; Pleasant McGhee taught one term; and Helen Hardin was teaching when the war broke out and ended our school, but not its effects."

The history of the public schools of the county commences with the election of Dr. John F. Newlon as county superintendent of public instruction, at the first election, held on April 22d, 1867. How soon after his election he commenced work I have no means of knowing, but a number of school districts must have been formed early in May of that year, for as early as June 1st we find the residents of one of the districts petitioning for a change of boundary. On account of the imperfection of our records as originally made, and of the entire loss of some of them, I am unable to speak with absolute definiteness in reference to the organization and history of many of the districts. Just how many districts were organized during Dr. Newlon's term of office I cannot say positively, and yet I may say with a reasonable degree of certainty that 20 is the number. From the appearance of the records the number cannot have exceeded 21 or 22, I think, and there is nothing showing clearly, nor hardly intimating anything beyond 20. The

order for the organization of District No. 20 appears in Dr. Newlon's own writing. This cannot be said of any subsequent number so far as the records now show. It is quite likely some of these first 20 districts had scarcely any existence aside from on paper. Most of them, however, were at once organized and steps taken for the establishment of schools. The county having just been organized, there was of course no public money, nor any public schools before the fall of 1867, and I can learn of but two private schools having been taught that year, viz., one in Oswego District, No. 1, and one in District No. 2. However, levies for school purposes were made that summer and taxes collected the following fall and winter, and from this time on the public schools were regularly held for a greater or less length of time in most of the districts. In the Jacksonville district, No. 11, only a part of which was in this county, a public school was taught in the summer of 1867; that school was not in this county, although as a joint district, report of the school was made to our county superintendent, as well as to the superintendent of Neosho county.

#### OSWEGO DISTRICT, NO. 1.

All of Oswego township lying west and south of the Neosho river, excepting the two southern tiers of sections, was, by the first order made by Supt. Newlon, formed into School District No. 1. In June, 1867, Mrs. Augusta Herbaugh commenced teaching the first school in the district. It was of course a private school, no public funds having yet been raised with which to employ a teacher. She taught in a small log building with dirt floor, situated near the northeast corner of section 21. The first officers elected were: T. J. Flouronoy,

director; Henry Jacobs, clerk; and J. Q. Cowell, treasurer. The first report of the district is dated August 14, 1867, and signed by H. Jacobs, clerk, and shows 30 male and 39 female children in the district, 17 males and 15 females having attended the private school taught by Mrs. Augusta Herbaugh at \$2.50 per scholar, which school commenced on the 24th of June. At that time there was standing on lot 1, block 33, now occupied by Mr. Symmes' drug store, a small frame building, in which most of the meetings, both religious and secular, were held. The board secured the use of this building for school purposes, and by a "bee" slabs were furnished with legs, and thus seats were provided; and in this room thus furnished, about the first of November, 1867, R. J. Elliott commenced teaching the first public school in the district, and one of the first, if not the very first, in the county. Public schools were taught that winter in several districts, but there are no records showing which was commenced first. Mr. Elliott's school continued for three months. There was no further school taught until the next fall. The second report is dated September 14, 1868, signed by J. F. Waskey, clerk, and shows a total enumeration of 176 children in the district, 77 of whom had attended a three-months school, taught by R. J. Elliott at a salary of \$50 per month, the average attendance being 41. On March 26, 1868, the following were elected: E. Hammer, director; J. F. Waskey, clerk; A. L. Austin, treasurer. On February 9, 1869, Mr. Waskey resigned, and W. S. Newlon was appointed clerk in his place. During the summer of 1868 a subscription was taken up among the business men of the place, and a frame building was erected on the southeast corner of block 39, designed for public meetings as well as for school and church purposes.

The only seats with which this building was furnished were rough slabs. In this building, in December, 1868, Rev. Cornelius V. Monfort and Miss Sallie Elliott commenced a term of school. Mr. Monfort was not especially adapted to public-school teaching, and at the expiration of two or three months found it advisable to give up his employment, and R. J. Elliott was again placed in charge of the school in connection with his sister Sallie. On March 10, 1869, on a vote of the district to issue \$5,000 in bonds to build a new school-house, there were 84 votes for and 8 against the proposition. The board elected on March 25, 1869, consisted of W. S. Newlon, director; George C. Sarvis, clerk; and R. W. Wright, treasurer. These officers had charge of the construction of the new school-house. Dr. Wright took the bonds to Leavenworth, where he negotiated them and secured funds for paying for the building as it was erected. The town company donated the west half of block 16, on which, during the summer of 1869, a two-story stone building was erected, containing four good school-rooms capable of seating 50 pupils each. The building was furnished throughout with patent seats and desks. In this building, late in the fall of 1869, a school was opened with George C. Sarvis, principal; Miss Louisa M. Allen, teacher of the intermediate; and Miss Sallie Elliott, teacher of the primary department. On September 14, 1869, George C. Sarvis, clerk, reported a total enrollment of 350, of whom 123 had been in school the preceding year, the average attendance being 98. In March, 1870, Henry Tibbits was elected director, J. F. Waskey, clerk, and R. W. Wright, treasurer. Mr. Waskey failed to qualify and George C. Sarvis was appointed to fill the vacancy. With the opening of the school year

in the fall of 1870, David Donovan was employed as principal, in which position he was continued for three years. In 1871 the board consisted of W. S. Newlon, director; A. B. Close, clerk; C. M. Condon, treasurer. In the spring of 1872 Nelson Case succeeded Mr. Close as clerk; Dr. Newlon remained as director and Mr. Condon as treasurer, and the board as thus composed remained in office until the organization of the board of education in 1873. In April, 1872, at the city election the following persons were chosen members of the board of education: First Ward, Henry Tibbits, Joseph Nelson; Second Ward, Mrs. Mary B. Franklin, J. W. Minturn; Third Ward, Mrs. Mary E. Case and Alexander Mackie. Some of these parties not desiring to serve, it was concluded not to organize the board of education, and the school continued under the charge of the district board as formerly elected. At the April election in 1873 a board of education was elected, consisting of Joseph Nelson and H. P. Nelson from the First Ward, G. C. Sarvis and Dr. S. P. Hurbut from the Second Ward, and H. W. Barnes and R. J. Elliott from the Third Ward. The board organized by electing Mr. Nelson president and Mr. Sarvis clerk; Nelson Case was elected superintendent of schools. Until the fall of 1883 the plan of the board was to have the teacher of the high school the principal of the school, and to employ a superintendent who was to have the general direction of school affairs, but who was not on the teaching force. Under this plan the superintendents were Nelson Case, Mary A. Higby, W. S. Newlon, W. A. Starr, F. H. Atchison, D. H. Mays, and M. Chidester. During this time the principals of the school were: April 1873, David Donovan, who resigned at the end of the month, and Mrs. E. Williams was put in charge until

the close of the school; 1873-76, A. C. Baker, three years; 1876-78, J. B. Hoover, two years; 1878-79, Mrs. J. R. Boulter, one year; 1879-81, A. C. Baker, two years; 1881-83, O. R. Bellamy, two years. Commencing with the fall of 1883 the superintendent of schools has been one of the teachers; sometimes he has also been principal of the high school, and sometimes there has been a separate principal of the high school. Under this arrangement the superintendents have been: 1883-86, M. Chidester, three years; 1886-90, J. W. Weltner, four years; 1890-91, Evelyn B. Baldwin, one year; 1891-94, Henry C. Long, three years; 1894-96, Warren M. Edmundson, two years; 1896-1900, Charles H. Williams, four years; 1900, Herbert W. Todd. Presidents of the board: 1873, Joseph Nelson; 1874, H. W. Barnes; 1875, Nelson Case; 1876-77, John A. Pigg; 1878-79, R. W. Wright; 1880-83, Nelson Case; 1884-88, J. B. Montgomery; 1889-90, Nelson Case; 1891, J. B. Montgomery; 1892, David Jennings; 1893-94, Nelson Case; 1895, E. T. Read; 1896-97, John N. Utterson; 1898-1900, Lee Williams. Clerks of the board: 1873, George C. Sarvis; 1874, John W. Montfort; 1875, John W. Montfort and R. J. Elliott; 1876, C. A. Wilkin; 1877, John S. Read and Charles H. Willhalf; 1878, J. C. Boulter; 1879, F. C. Helsel; 1880, N. Sanford and F. H. Atchinson; 1881-82, William Houck; 1883, F. H. Atchinson; 1884-85, John F. Hill; 1886-1892, A. T. Dickerman; 1893-94, John Elliott; 1895-96, George Campbell; 1897-99, C. A. Wilkin; 1900, W. K. Orr. At the close of school in April, 1884, the first graduating class went out, consisting of Eunice Crane, Samuel Carpenter, D. S. Waskey, and Merrit C. Reed. The graduates now number 27 boys and 99 girls, total 126; of this number, five were col-

ored students. For some time prior to 1882 the stone school-house was entirely insufficient to seat the pupils of the district, and rooms had to be secured in such places as they could be had. Of course very inferior accommodations could be provided in this way. During 1880 and 1881 the board submitted several propositions to the electors for the issuance of bonds for a new school-house, which were voted down. In his annual report in 1881, and again in 1882, the president of the board urged the erection of a new house, and on June 6, 1882, a proposition to issue \$12,000 in bonds was carried. With this the north half and the central part of the south half of block 4, in Cowell's addition, was secured for a site, on which the west school building was erected during the summer and fall, and in January, 1883, was occupied for school purposes. In 1886 the old stone school-house was torn down and a new brick erected on the same site, at a cost of \$6,000.

June 16, 1871, at the close of the county teachers' association the ladies of Oswego formed an educational association, of which Mrs. Mary E. Perkins was elected president and Mrs. Amy B. Howard, secretary. On June 15, 1872, they held their first annual meeting, and elected Mrs. M. E. Donovan president and Mrs. E. Williams, secretary. At the annual election of 1873 Mrs. M. E. Donovan was re-elected president; Mrs. E. Williams, secretary; Mrs. A. M. Taylor, treasurer. The association was maintained for several years, and did a great amount of good. Through their exertions the school-house grounds were fenced, the trees which now adorn the east school-house yard were planted under their superintendency, the city authorities were induced to assist in securing side-

walks leading to the school-house, and in many ways their influence on the school was felt for good.

#### STICE DISTRICT, NO. 2.

The original order for the formation of District No. 2 is now on file, and shows that it was located in the southeast corner of Oswego township. The first report of the district is dated August 9, 1867, signed by William F. Mason, clerk, showing 46 children in the district, 26 being in attendance on a private school taught by Mrs. Sarah Braught, wife of Cloyd G. Braught. Mrs. Braught taught in their own cabin, situated on section 34, in Oswego township. John W. Burgess, clerk, makes two reports, one dated September 14, 1868, showing, 55 children in the district, 33 having attended a three-months' school taught by W. Leonard at \$25 per month; the average daily attendance was 16. O. Whitney was clerk in 1869, and shows by report that Mary E. Biggs had taught a three-months' school the preceding season at \$25 per month.

#### GORE (OR MARTIN) DISTRICT, NO. 3.

The original order for the organization of District No. 3 is not among the public records; but on June 1, 1867, a petition of a number of the residents of that district living in Richland township, north of the Labette and west of the Neosho river, petitioned for a change of boundary so that it should include all of the township lying north of Labette creek, and west from the Neosho as far as and including a part of sections 17, 8 and 5, which petition Superintendent Newlon granted. The report of the district for 1867 has evidently been torn and mutilated, so that at present no information can be gathered therefrom. The first re-

port we have is dated November 9, 1868, signed by M. J. Lee, clerk, showing 25 males and 20 female children in the district, and that a school had been taught by Cass Steel. Mr. Lee again reports as clerk, in 1869; the report shows a three-months' school having been taught by Miss Lizzie Kingsbury, with an average daily attendance of 22, at a salary of \$25 per month. On June 12, 1869, a special meeting was held, at which 16 votes were cast, all in favor of issuing \$350 in bonds with which to build a school-house. With this money the district purchased a frame store building which L. D. Bovee had put up for Mr. Smith at the old town of Labette, and moved it out to the Oswego and Chetopa road. This building has served the district as a school-house ever since.

#### CHETOPA DISTRICT, NO. 4.

All of the original records we have in reference to the formation of the early districts in the county are on slips of paper. There is no record whatever now on file of the formation of any district in the county numbered 4; but the original records describing District No. 5 completely fit the territory which has ever since been recognized as District No. 4, and the description of District No. 6 fits the territory which was thereafter recognized as District No. 5; and as there is little or no record of any business in District No. 6 prior to the establishment of such a district in 1872, it may be fairly inferred that the superintendent in writing out these orders made a mistake in numbering them, leaving out 4 entirely. I shall assume that the original order for the establishment No. 5 was intended for and was thereafter uniformly applied to District No. 4. It embraced two miles in width on the east line of the county, extending from La-



bette creek on the north to the State line on the south. We have no record showing who composed the first board of this district, but the first report is dated August 14, 1867, and is signed by Henry Shannon. The only thing the report shows is that there are in the district 20 males and 16 females of school age. We have then this negative testimony that no school was taught in this district prior to that time. During 1868 the school board consisted of William Craft, director; Daniel J. Doolen, clerk; Z. A. Woodard, treasurer. The report dated August 29, 1868, shows the school population to be 137, and that a three-months' school of 26 males and 29 females, and a total average daily attendance of 30, had been taught by Miss Ellen Craft at a salary of \$25 per month. During the winter of 1868-69 a school with two departments was taught; one by Mrs. Abigail Horner, and the other by Miss Ellen Craft. No school building had yet been erected, but early in 1869 a contract was made for the erection of a school building. At the election on March 25, 1869, the following officers were elected: J. L. Taft, director; John W. Horner, clerk; C. P. Spaulding, treasurer. On December 5, 1869, the schools were opened in Spaulding's Hall, in charge of Newton Bowles and his daughter, Miss Eva Bowles. On February 3, 1870, the new frame school-house having been completed, it was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. On the 7th of the same month the schools were opened in this new building, which even then was found to be too small to accommodate the children who were ready to attend. At the election in the spring of 1870 N. S. Storrs was elected director; J. W. Horner, clerk; and J. L. Taft, treasurer. During the summer Mr. Storrs resigned and Jonas Clark was appointed in his place. J. J. McBride was appointed principal

of the schools for the following year, but in January resigned, and for a time Miss M. L. Ela, who had been one of the assistant teachers, was put in charge, but in March she resigned, and Mr. Griswold was elected principal. At the district election in 1871, Jonas Clark was elected director, C. H. McCreery, clerk, and J. L. Taft, treasurer. The city having been organized into a city of the second class about this time, on March 29, 1871, Mayor Fox assumed, with the assent of the council, to organize the board of education, and appointed as members thereof the following: Jonas Clark, Dr. John Birch, C. F. Smith, and Rev. C. H. McCreery. On May 1st these parties met as the board of education and proceeded to organize by electing Mr. Clark as president; Mr. Birch, vice-president; Mr. McCreery, clerk; and Mr. Smith, treasurer; they then appointed J. M. Cavaness superintendent of schools. In September, 1871, the schools were opened under the superintendency of Edward Mason. On June 10, 1872, by a vote of 147 for to 54 against, it was decided to issue \$25,000 in bonds to build a new school-house. In due course of time preparations for building were made. The board pushed forward the work as rapidly as possible. The building was completed and dedicated on July 4, 1873, and was at that time the finest school-house in the county. A separate building was then erected for colored children. The first graduating class consisted of M. Nellie McGinley, Allie Horner, Jessie Sellman, and Harry W. Sterling. This class went out in 1883. There have been 44 boys and 97 girls, total, 141, graduated from the school. The largest enrollment in its history was in 1898, when it reached 753. The high school course is on a grade with that of others, which prepare for college. J. M. Cavaness, C. H. McCreery, J. Paulsen and J. D.

Graham at various times have acted as city superintendent. In recent years the principals of the high school have also been superintendents. The principals, term commencing in the fall of the year named, have been: 1871, Edward M. Mason; 1872, L. J. VanLandingham; 1873, J. W. Horner; 1874, P. Fales; 1875, J. A. R. Smith; 1876, Buel T. Davis; 1877-78, Hobert Hay; 1879, L. J. VanLandingham; 1880, O. V. Hayes; 1881-84, J. W. Weltner; 1885, J. W. Weltner and W. W. Lindsey; 1886, Buel T. Davis; 1887-88, S. D. Crane; 1889-91, E. A. Herod; 1892-94, Clay D. Herod; 1894-96, G. M. Brown; 1896-97, A. J. Lovett; 1897—, M. Nellie McGinley. Presidents: 1871, Jonas Clark; 1872, Dr. John Burch; 1873, J. M. Bannan; 1874, L. J. VanLandingham; 1875, F. A. Hunter; 1876, William Alexander; 1877, L. J. VanLandingham; 1878, C. H. Guntler; 1879-82, Lewis Williams; 1883-85, J. C. Witt; 1886-87, G. D. Boon; 1888, G. W. McEwen; 1889, G. D. Boon; 1890, B. F. Danforth; 1891, J. C. Witt; 1892-97, Mrs. Clara N. Bush; 1898-99, J. B. Anderson; 1900—, A. P. Free. Clerks, 1871, C. H. McCreery; 1872, J. M. Bannan; 1873, C. H. Ludlow; 1874, C. Humble; 1875, L. J. VanLandingham; 1876-77, C. Humble; 1878, C. M. Williams; 1879-80, N. S. Van Ausdale; 1881, A. G. Drake and L. M. Bedell; 1882-89, A. G. Drake; 1890-97, G. W. McEwen; 1898, R. A. Lough; 1899-1900, A. J. Doran.

#### WATSON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

As I said in describing District No. 4, I must assume that the superintendent in preparing the records which have come down to us made a mistake in numbering these districts, as the description of what he has numbered 5 applies to the district which was thereafter

designated 4, and the district he has numbered 6 applies to that which was thereafter acted upon as 5. The original order for the formation of District No. 5, as numbered on said order, made it to embrace the east part of Richland township, including the town of Chetopa; but all subsequent proceedings make it evident that that order was intended to be for District No. 4, or at least that it was thereafter acted upon as No. 4. As I have before assumed that the order by the superintendent numbered 5, was intended for 4, so I must assume that for the formation of District No. 6 was intended to be, as it was thereafter regularly recognized, District No. 5. It commenced at the northwest corner of section 1, in Hackberry township, and extended south to the State line; thence east three miles; thence north to the Labette river; thence up said stream to the place of beginning. This seems to leave the middle tier of sections running north and south in Richland township out of either school district. Perhaps the superintendent's intention was to put District No. 6 in Hackberry township, and after running south to the State line, instead of running east, he should have made his order read, "thence running west." Or it may be that at that time, in some way, Districts Nos. 4, 5 and 6 were understood to embrace all of Richland township south of Labette creek, notwithstanding the imperfect description in the orders forming them. But that the west part of Richland township was organized District No. 5, rather than District No. 6, is made clear by a petition which was presented sometime during Mr. Newlon's administration, although the date is not given, wherein Moses Powers, John Kenney, William Shay, John N. Watson, S. R. Southwick and a number of others represented themselves as being residents of District No. 5,

and asked that the district might be made to commence at the southwest corner of said township, which would be, as then constituted, the southwest corner of section 31, and to extend three miles east and three miles north. William Shay was the first director, S. R. Southwick the first clerk, and John Kinney the first treasurer of this district. The first report is dated September 5, 1867, and shows 39 children of school age in the district. No public school was taught in the district until the fall of 1868. The clerk's report, dated September 12, 1868, shows 51 children of school age, and that Matilda Quinby had taught a three-months' subscription school, with an attendance of 11 males and 13 females. The next winter S. R. Southwick taught a three-months' school at \$35 per month, and in the spring Miss Frankie Hull taught a three-months' school at \$25 per month. The first school was taught in David Wagoner's vacant house on the southwest quarter of section 18. The first school meeting was held on the open prairie of John N. Watson's claim, on the northwest quarter of section 29. It was there agreed that each person should bring in a few logs, and that they would put up a log school-house. This project was not carried out, and in the spring of 1869 they put up a frame house. D. U. Watson is credited with having been present at every school meeting that has ever been held in the district.

#### BLACKFORD DISTRICT, NO. 6.

What I have said in speaking of Districts Nos. 4 and 5 may be referred to at this place for a fuller statement in reference to this district. Aside from the order granting District No. 6, which I have heretofore assumed to be intended for a description of District No. 5, I

find only these matters of record which would indicate that at any time there was any district designated as No. 6 prior to 1872. There is a report dated August 15, 1867, signed by J. B. Huntly, clerk, which he represents to be a report for District No. 4, but at the bottom, evidently in the handwriting of the superintendent, it is marked District No. 6, and is said to be in Oswego township; and in May, 1871, by the notices of election returns, it seems that Stanley Foland was director; Joseph Watson, clerk; and Wm. H. Payne, treasurer of District No. 6. On May 28, 1872, Superintendent Horner gave notice that he proposed to take the northeast quarter of section 27 and the southeast quarter of section 22, township 34, range 20, from District No. 6. If there was originally a district of this number organized, it seems to have lost its organization very soon, and its territory must have been embraced in other districts. The policy of the superintendent seems to have been, when a district of any number became extinct, to give that number to the next new district which should be organized, and this number was given to an entirely new district, situated in the central-southern part of Howard township. This district was formed by an order made March 17, 1872, on a petition dated March 9, 1872, signed by H. C. Long, William Blackford and others. The first school meeting in this new district was held at the house of E. R. Lee, on March 30, 1872, and the following officers elected: R. M. Roberts, director; John Morse, clerk; Wm. Stevenson, treasurer.

#### BISHOP DISTRICT, NO. 7.

The original order for the formation of this district located it in the southwest corner of Oswego township, and a portion of Rich-

land township lying north of Labette creek. A report dated September 14, 1867, signed by Francis M. Brockus, shows 31 children of school age in the district. This was the only item in the report, and this was the only report of the district as thus located which is now on file, and it seems that within the next few months this territory was absorbed by other districts, and this district became extinct. On December 14, 1869, Abner DeCout, Alexander Bishop, D. S. Bishop, Henry Newcomb and Henry G. Pore petitioned for the formation of a district to embrace sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, in Hackberry township; and by an order made on the 17th of that month this territory, and also section 7 in Richland township, was formed into a new district designated as No. 7. A school-house was built in the fall of 1870, but before the erection of a school-house one term of school had been taught in a private house belonging to Henry Pore, on section 10. This first school was taught, commencing in the fall of 1869, by Miss Esther Biggs.

#### SHILOH DISTRICT, NO. 8.

This district is located in the southwestern part of Montana township. The first officers were: Samuel Dunham, director; R. S. Cornish, clerk; Joseph Brown, treasurer. The first report of this district is dated September 1, 1868, signed by R. S. Cornish, clerk, and shows 37 children of school age in the district, but no school having been taught therein. The first school in the district seems to have been taught in the spring of 1869, by A. A. Biggs. The report dated September 10, 1869, signed by E. G. Robinson, clerk, shows 37 children of school age, and an attendance of 21 at school, the average daily attendance being 15,

and the salary of the teacher \$24 per month. A log school-house was put up in 1868, and in 1871 a good frame building took its place.

#### BED ROCK (OR RED BUD) DISTRICT, NO. 9.

This district is located in Montana township, east of the Neosho river. It must have formed in 1867, although there is no record of its organization; nor indeed is there any record showing anything in reference thereto prior to 1870, when the district board is reported to have been composed of David M. Watson, Benjamin F. Hanson, and James H. White. On December 5, 1881, the school-house was destroyed by fire; and as the limit allowed by law for bonds had previously been reached, and the bonds were still outstanding, it was determined to raise funds by subscription with which to build. Considerable outside aid was secured, especially from the business men of Oswego. In this way the district was again soon supplied with a house.

#### LABETTE CITY DISTRICT, NO. 10.

This district was originally organized by Superintendent Newlon, embracing two miles in width on the north side of Fairview township and three miles in width on the south side of Liberty township, from the east line of said township five miles west. Wm. H. Cline was the first clerk, and on September 11, 1867, reported no school having been taught in the district, but an enrollment of 24 males and 19 females of school age. The first school in the district was taught by Wm. H. Cline, as is shown by the report of W. J. Conner, clerk, dated September 1, 1865 (evidently intended for 1868), at a salary of \$33.33 1-3 per month. The school was taught in a claim cabin on the

southeast quarter of section 27, belonging to the estate of A. W. Richardson. The attendance at this school was 10 males and 3 females, with an average attendance of 3 1-6. John Richardson succeeded W. J. Conner as clerk, and in the winter of 1868 James F. Molesworth taught a three-months' school at a salary of \$35 per month, with an average attendance of 14 1-2. This school was taught in the new hewed-log school-house which had just been erected on the southwest quarter of section 35. This house was built by subscription with the understanding that the parties should be repaid when the district could raise funds, which was done. The town of Labette was started in June, 1870, and thereafter the school was taught in town. The first school in town was opened in a rented room on the east side of the railroad track, October 6, 1870, by J. L. Williams. In December the board bought a two-story frame building on the west side of the railroad track, known as Bates' Hall. The lower part was occupied by the publishers of the *Sentinel* as a printing-office. The school was moved to the second story of this building, where Mr. Williams and his wife, Rachel Williams, both taught in one room. This building served as the school-house until June 6, 1878, when it was blown down and entirely destroyed by a tornado. Dr. Conner, seeing that his barometer indicated a storm, went to the school-house and directed school to be dismissed. The scholars were scarcely home till the house was in fragments. A new house was at once erected, and ready for occupancy that fall. Since 1881 the following named persons have taught in the more advanced of the two rooms of the school in this district: W. F. Thorne, H. G. Jenkins, J. I. Stone, W. V. McDowell, John Owen, E. L. Christy, Arthur Cranston, R. P. Arnold, Leslie Scott and

Allen Piatt. Messrs. McDowell, Christy, Arnold, Scott and Piatt each taught more than one year, and one or two of them officiated several years.

## JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT, NO. 11.

This was a union district, embracing the northeastern part of Neosho township, lying west of the river, and a part of Neosho county, with the school site at Jacksonville, in Neosho county. On September 12, 1867, David Evans, clerk, reported that Jennie McDonald had taught a three-months' school at a salary of \$23.33 1-3 per month, with an enrollment of 15 scholars, and an average attendance of 9. The following year O. Herraman and A. J. Kennedy, the former at a salary of \$60 and the latter \$25 per month, taught a four-months' school, with a total enrollment of 55.

## BOWMAN DISTRICT, NO. 12.

This district lies in the western part of Fairview township. There is no doubt but that a district was formed having this number by Superintendent Newlon, although there is nothing on file showing its original organization, nor anything in respect to the district, until after 1869. On February 11, 1870, an order was made for the formation of the district, and the first election directed to be held at the house of William Wood, on February 23, 1870. Whether the district of this number formed in 1867 embraced entirely different territory, the organization of which never became perfected, or whether it originally embraced the same territory as is now comprised in the district, I am unable, with the information I now have, to decide; I am however, disposed to think that District No. 12 as formed by Superintendent

ent Newlon was never fully organized, but was laid off when there was little settlement, and contained within its bounds the territory forming that district as we now know it. The first officers as now shown by the records were, in 1870, Frank Williams, director; I. W. Patrick, clerk; A. S. Spaulding, treasurer.

#### MONTANA DISTRICT, NO. 13.

The first report on file is not dated, but is supposed to be the report for 1867. It is signed by B. W. Bennett, clerk, and represents this district as being in Big Hill township. It is otherwise blank, excepting the statement that there are 8 males and 10 females in the district. The next report is signed by Henry M. Minor, clerk, and is dated August 31, 1868, showing 22 males and 20 females in the district, and that there has been a three-months' school taught in the district, but not by a qualified teacher; of course this was a private school. While the report does not show it, the fact is this was a subscription school, taught in the summer of 1867 by Alice Biggs, in the old log store building belonging to B. F. Simons—the first house built on the town-site. Mr. Minor remained clerk the following year, and reported 82 children of school age in the district, 46 of whom were attending school. A three-months' school had been taught by John Hudson, at \$26.33 2-3 per month. This first public school was taught in an old log house on the southwest quarter of section 8, township 32, range 21, in the spring of 1869. In 1870 the board consisted of J. J. Woods, director; H. M. Minor, clerk; and A. Gebhart, treasurer. Capt. A. Gebhart and J. J. Woods were the building committee for the erection of a new school-house. Bonds in the sum of \$3,000 were voted, and the house cost \$2,200. It was dedicated November 19, 1870, Colonel Horner de-

livering the address. Soon thereafter the first school in the new house was taught, by E. D. Graybill. The old building having become badly out of repair, bonds were voted early in 1897, and a new school building was erected that summer, and in which school was opened at the commencement of 1898. Two teachers have been employed since 1888, and part of the time during some prior years. The teachers in the more advanced room since 1888 have been: W. A. McKee, Lena Bates, Homer Metier, Flora Beale, R. P. Arnold, Leslie Scott, Tully DeArmond, Lula Peak, Sherd Barcus, Lillie Willi and Angeline Phillips.

#### CENTRAL DISTRICT, NO. 14.

The original order for the formation of this district is not to be found; but a petition dated March 6, 1868, signed by J. H. Hart and some 20 more residents of the district, asking for a change in the boundaries of the district, seems to have been granted March 9, 1868. The first report is signed by James F. Molesworth, clerk, and dated September 1, 1868. It shows 18 children in the district, and that a public school was then in progress. This was the first school in the district. It was taught by Mrs. Almada Molesworth, in a cabin standing on the southeast quarter of section 17, belonging to S. T. Cherry. The following year Mr. Molesworth reported 46 children in the district, 38 of whom were attending school, the average attendance being 17, and that Almada Molesworth had taught a three-months' school at a salary of \$22 per month. The school-house was built in 1869; it was a frame building, covered with walnut siding.

#### NEW HOPE DISTRICT, NO. 15.

This district is located near the north part of Neosho township, east of the Neosho River.



The first report is dated September 1, 1868, signed by Edward Spicer, clerk, and shows only that there were 34 children in the district. The next report is signed by O. Sweet, clerk, and shows 50 children in the district, with 42 attending school, the average attendance being 24, and that Miss Jennie M. Beck had taught a three-months' school at a salary of \$15 per month.

## CONCORD DISTRICT, NO. 16.

On January 29, 1868, L. A. Rogers and James W. Galyen presented a petition for the formation of this district. It was made to embrace the northwestern part of Neosho township and the northeastern part of North township. Prior to this, Superintendent Newlon seems to have formed, or to have contemplated the formation of this district, but no order for such formation is to be found. The first report, dated August 1, 1868, signed by L. A. Rogers, clerk, shows 33 children in the district, with 37 attending school, and an average attendance of 16. Mrs. Pauline A. Ames had taught a three-months' school, at a salary of \$20 per month. A. P. Gore succeeded Mr. Rogers as clerk, and the following year makes two reports—one in August, showing 39 children in the district, 20 of whom had been attending school, and one in October, showing 78 children in the district, 57 of whom had been attending school. E. H. Taylor had taught a three-months' school at a salary of \$33.33 1-3 per month. The first school-house in the district was built of logs, the settlers turning out and doing the work; it was located on section 7, in Neosho township, and was put up in the fall of 1868. Subsequently the site was changed to North township, and a good frame building was erected.

## LIBERTY DISTRICT, NO. 17.

The original order for the formation of this district is not among the public records. But probably in 1868 Superintendent Reed, on the petition of L. N. Shelledy, Samuel Lewis, W. H. Scott, Ed. Mercer, and other residents of the district, made an order for the subdivision of said district; the boundary of this district thereafter to commence at the northeast corner of Liberty township, thence extending south three and one-half miles, to Labette Creek. The first report of this district is signed by W. B. Jones, clerk, dated September 14, 1868, and simply shows 21 children in the district. In a report dated September 14, 1869, signed by Charles Demend, clerk, it is shown that there are 53 children in the district, with 10 attending a three-months' school, taught by Miss Mary Bowlu, at a salary of \$12 per month; but there is also a report on file dated September 15, 1869, signed by Eli Sayers, clerk, showing 66 children in the district, 44 in school, but not giving the name of the teacher. Evidently one of these is intended for some other district, but both purport to be for District No. 17.

## WOODS DISTRICT, NO. 18.

This district was formed during Superintendent Newlon's administration, but the record thereof is not now to be found. On April 4, 1868, on the petition of F. W. Latham, it was reorganized and made to embrace a tract three miles square in the southwestern part of what is now North township. The first report, dated September 8, 1868, signed by Aaron Midkiff, clerk, shows 24 children in the district, but no school. F. W. Latham, clerk, in a report dated August 31, 1869, reports 45

children in the district, but no school taught. In the spring of 1873 a school-house was erected and well furnished, from the proceeds of \$1,000 in bonds which had been voted. This house was used until some time in the "nineties" when it was replaced by a new building.

M'CORMICK (AFTERWARDS CUNNINGHAM)  
DISTRICT, NO. 19.

According to the records now on file, this district was formed October 7, 1868, and embraced the northwest part of what is now Mound Valley township. The district seems to have been contemplated in 1867, but the record of its organization, if one was had at that time, is lost. The first report, dated October 15, 1868, signed by William Jones, clerk, shows 18 children in the district, but no school. On August 14, 1869, the first meeting was held, at which it was decided to locate the school-house on the northwest corner of Mrs. McMichael's claim, and to circulate a subscription paper for material for building a school-house. J. Bishop, clerk, reported 13 children in the district at that date. The first school in the district was taught in a "shake" claim-house, with dirt floor, on section 26, township 32, range 17, by Mrs. Mollie Courtney, commencing in September, 1869. This was a subscription school, and continued for three months. In 1870 the board consisted of J. H. Beggs, director; H. B. Griffith, clerk; and J. M. Courtney, treasurer.

WILD CAT DISTRICT, NO. 20.

The original order for the formation of this district is in the handwriting of Superintendent Newlon, and seems to have been the last district formed under his administration.

It is located in Montana township, east of the Neosho. Aside from the order for its organization, there is nothing on file showing that anything had been done therein prior to April 20, 1870, when the petition of Daniel Hoy and others was presented for a change in this district, which seems to have been made; also reorganization thereof had in the early part of 1874. The first report on file is dated September 12, 1870, signed by James White, clerk.

RED ELM DISTRICT, NO. 21.

This district is located in the southwest corner of Neosho township. There is nothing of record, either original or copies, showing when it was organized. It must have been during Superintendent Newlon's administration, or very soon after Superintendent Reed came into office. The first report, dated September 10, 1868, is signed by Newberry Cooper, clerk, in which he says that they have had no school, but will have the following winter if they can get their house completed in time. The report shows 54 children in the district. September 15, 1869, Mr. Cooper again reports, showing 68 children in the district, 47 of whom have attended a three-months' school taught by Miss Mary Slane, who had received \$2 per scholar, there being no public money in the district.

SPRING HILL DISTRICT, NO. 22.

On a petition of Harvey I. Cox and others, dated January 19, 1869, this district was formed, embracing the southwestern corner of North township. The first election was held at the house of Harvey I. Cox, on February 13, 1869. Harvey I. Cox was the first clerk. In 1870 a frame school-house was built, which

was replaced with a fine brick house about fourteen or fifteen years ago.

#### CLOVER DISTRICT, NO. 23.

Under date of March 28, 1869, Superintendent Elliott made an order for the formation of District No. 23, in the northeast part of Oswego township, north and east of the Neosho river, and appointed the first school meeting to be held at the house of D. M. Clover, April 7, 1869. On August 31, 1870, what is marked as the second annual report was made by L. W. Crain, which is the first now on file. It shows 33 children in the district, 24 of whom were attending school, with an average attendance of 20. The school-house was not plastered until 1871.

#### OAK GROVE DISTRICT, NO. 24.

On March 11, 1869, the petition of W. S. Newlon, R. W. Bagby, S. Holbrook, C. Montague, F. Swanwick and others was presented for the formation of a new district. Upon this petition the order of the superintendent was made, forming District No. 24, embracing the north part of Oswego township and the south part of Montana township. The first officers were: C. Montague, director; Henry Lively, clerk; F. Swanwick, treasurer, chosen at the first meeting, which was held at the house of W. Lane, April 10, 1869. The first report is dated September 14, 1869, signed by Henry Lively, showing 42 children in the district, 38 in attendance upon school, with an average attendance of 13 1-3, and a subscription school having been taught by Miss Amanda Powers. This was the first school in the district, and was taught in a cabin on the southeast quarter of section 5, Oswego township. In January,

1870, a log house was built at the southwest corner of section 33, in Montana township; it was built by subscription for church and school purposes. The first public school in the district was taught by Henry Lively, commencing in this house as soon as it was completed. The next school was taught by John P. Jones, commencing November, 1870. On September 27, 1873, at a public meeting of the district, a new school-house site was selected, on section 5, and it was voted to erect a stone school-house thereon.

#### BREESE DISTRICT, NO. 25.

February 15, 1869, C. M. Fentriss, M. Huntley, G. W. Yandle, L. W. Leak, and several other residents of the territory, petitioned for the formation of a district in the northwest corner of Richland township, lying east of Labette Creek. The petition was granted, and District No. 25 was organized. There are no officers reported until 1870, when the board consisted of Lewis W. Leak, director; L. F. Summers, clerk; and H. C. Hardway, treasurer. The school-house was built in the summer of 1871, and in it, in the fall of that year, John Lawrence commenced teaching the first school in the district. In 1899, a new school-house was erected to take the place of the old one, which had become much out of repair.

#### HIATT DISTRICT, NO. 26.

On April 17, 1869, an order was made for the formation of District No. 26. No boundaries are given in the order, but it seems to have been situated in Hackberry township. The first meeting was held at the house of G. W. Franklin, April 30, 1869. On September 14, 1869, James McRoberts, clerk, reported 40 children in the district, but that no school had

been taught. In 1870 the board consisted of J. M. McCoon, director; G. W. Franklin, clerk; George S. Downing, treasurer.

DICKERMAN DISTRICT, NO. 27.

On April 18, 1869, this district was formed, and embraced the central portion of Fairview township, extending east as far as Labette Creek. The first meeting was held at the house of Joseph Barker, on April 6, 1869. September 7, 1869, A. S. Potter, clerk, reported 56 children in the district, no school having yet been taught therein. In the fall of 1869 a subscription school was taught by Esther Biggs, in a log house on the northwest quarter of section 23. Thomas Bulwer was director, A. S. Potter, clerk, and E. Wiggins, treasurer, in 1870. In the fall of 1870 the first public school in the district was taught by Mary E. Dickerman, in a frame house on the northwest quarter of section 27. A school-house was built in the spring of 1871, which, on May 21, 1885, was burned to the ground.

LOCKARD DISTRICT, NO. 28.

This district is situated in the central part of Hackberry township, south of Hackberry Creek. The first official document which I now find among the public records relative to District No. 28 is an annual report dated August 31, 1870, signed by John Shumcker, clerk. The only item of information contained in this report is that they have 24 children in the district; no school is yet reported. I can find nothing further among the public records indicating when it was organized.

STOVER DISTRICT, NO. 29.

This district was formed April 29, 1869, on a petition of J. P. D. Mouriquand, J. M.

Logan, George Pfaff, and others, and embraced a tract in the north part of Fairview township extending west from Labette Creek. The first election was held at the house of J. S. McManis, on May 11, 1869. September 8, 1869, M. H. Logan, clerk, reported 34 children in the district, but that no school had been taught. The first school-house was built in the fall of 1869.

HARMONY GROVE (OR CARPENTER, NOW MORTIMER) DISTRICT, NO. 30.

This district is located in the central part of Osage township. A log house was used for the first school-house in the district, and in it William Jeans taught the first school, in the summer of 1869. In the summer of 1871 a frame house was built, and in it the following winter the first school was taught, by John Stroud. The first school board consisted of Leroy F. Dick, director; William H. Carpenter, clerk; and Henry Reed, treasurer. Another reports the board to have been W. H. Carpenter, director; George N. Jeans, clerk; and J. H. Dienst, treasurer.

PRAIRIE VALLEY DISTRICT, NO. 31.

This district must have been organized in 1869, although the records concerning its organization are not to be found. As originally constituted, it embraced the entire northwestern quarter of North township; subsequently its territory was much reduced, District No. 104 having been taken therefrom. There is no report or other official record whatever on file with reference to the district prior to 1871, when the board consisted of S. Hardman, director; James F. Harris, clerk; A. J. Ingraham, treasurer.

HEACOCK (OR STONE PALACE) DISTRICT,  
NO. 32.

This district is situated in the northern part of North township. The record of its organization, if one was made, is lost. The first we have is a report made August 31, 1870, by A. Fagan, clerk, showing they have 50 children in the district, 30 attending school, with an average attendance of 22. In 1871 the board was composed of George Miner, J. C. Merwin, and C. W. Rictor.

## PARSONS DISTRICT, NO. 33.

A petition dated February 23, 1869, made by R. T. Caldwell, Anson Kellogg, A. Midkiff, S. N. Fultz, Maria Hussey, George Brock, and several others, was presented to the superintendent, on which he soon thereafter made an order for the organization of District No. 33, embracing, in addition to the territory now composed in that district, several additional sections. The first meeting was held at the house of Aaron Midkiff, at which the following officers were elected: Anson Kellogg, director; George M. Wilson, clerk; Joseph Simpson, treasurer. September 10, 1869, George M. Wilson, clerk, reported 20 males and 14 females in the district on the 31st of August, 15 of whom—10 males and 5 females, with an average attendance of 10—were in school, in progress at that time, taught by Maria Hussey, at a salary of \$16.66 2-3 per month. This school was taught in an out-house belonging to A. Midkiff, on the southwest quarter of section 19, North township. The next school was taught from September to December, 1870, by Miss Sophronia Emery, in a vacant log house belonging to Samuel Eves, on the northeast quarter of sec-

tion 24, in Walton township. This was the first public school taught in the district. On March 31, 1870, the first annual meeting was held, at the house of Aaron Midkiff, and the following officers elected: Anson Kellogg, director; H. L. Partridge, clerk; George Brock, treasurer. The latter failing to qualify, W. K. Hayes was soon after appointed to fill the vacancy; and this same board was continued in office during two years. In March, 1872, they elected Dr. G. W. Gabriel director, T. C. Cory, clerk, and Dr. T. R. Warren, treasurer. At the meeting held March 31, 1870, the board were directed to take steps to build a school-house. On September 17th of that year, bonds in the sum of \$1,000 were voted, and the board purchased lots 15 and 16 in block 72, and on this, during the winter of 1870 and the spring of 1871, a one-story frame building was erected as the first school-house in the district. It was not completed until June, and was accepted by the board August 1, 1871. On May 8, 1871, Miss Kate Squires and Miss Sophronia Emery began a subscription school in the new school building, which was then enclosed but not fully completed. On August 10th the board decided to enlarge the building by adding six feet on the west end, making two school-rooms. This house was afterward bought by the colored people, to be used as a church. The house thus completed was built with the proceeds of the \$1,000 in bonds. In the fall of 1871 the school opened in the new school-house, with E. H. Taylor and Miss Sophronia Emery as teachers. On October 3, 1871, on a vote to issue \$15,000 in bonds with which to erect a new school-house, there were 108 votes in favor of the proposition, and but 5 against it. The bonds were sold at 87 1-2 cents on the dollar. In January, 1872, the contract for the erection of this building was

let to T. B. Douglas, of Clinton, Missouri, for \$11,993. On his failure to give bond satisfactory to the board, they attempted to take the contract from him and give it to Martin Mason, also of Clinton, Missouri, at the agreed price of \$13,000; but the district assumed to overrule this action, and allowed Mr. Douglas to go on with the work. He failed to complete his contract, and the district had the loss to sustain. The building was completed and ready for the opening of school in the fall of 1872. In March, 1873, Parsons was incorporated as a city of the second class, whereupon the board of education was elected at the city election, in April. Presidents of the board: 1873, George A. Reynolds; 1874, O. L. Hall, George W. Briggs; 1875, G. C. West; 1876-79, A. Wilson; 1880-81, R. H. Patrick; 1882, William Moir; 1883, S. W. Kniffin; 1884, J. M. Gregory; 1885, W. J. Quick; 1886, I. N. McCreery; 1887, J. M. Caldwell; 1888, R. D. Talbot; 1889-90, J. T. Tinder; 1891, A. H. Tyler; 1892, O. H. Stuart, G. H. L. Copeland; 1893, Ira F. Adams; 1894, R. M. Johnson; 1895-96, W. H. Martin; 1897, George S. Anderson; 1898, A. B. Manning; 1899, F. O. Boyd; 1900, Josiah Richmond. Clerks: 1873, J. H. Metier and W. A. Gillam; 1874, P. M. Griffin; 1875, M. Noyes; 1876, George Thornton; 1877-81, James Grimes; 1882-86, A. H. Tyler; 1887, C. W. Duza; and A. G. Thurman; 1888, A. H. Tyler and A. G. Thurman; 1889, Mary S. Outland and J. W. Iden; 1890-99, J. W. Iden; 1900, Arthur Cranston. Principals: 1872, J. H. Griffith; 1873, David Donavan; 1874, Mrs. E. J. Collins; 1875, Mrs. Jennie Arthur. Up to 1876 the schools were superintended by citizens who were not teachers, and who were expected to do little more than have a general oversight, to know what the schools were doing. J. G. Parkhurst and M. W. Reynolds

were two of the parties who filled this position. Commencing with 1876, the superintendents had charge of the school, and did more or less teaching. Superintendents: 1876, B. F. Hickey; 1877-79, M. Chidester; 1880, O. M. McPherson; 1881-87, L. Tomlin; 1888-90, C. H. Harris; 1891-94, H. C. Ford; 1894-98, S. D. Frazier; 1898-99, H. Winsor; 1899-1901, N. H. McDonald. The first graduate was Maude G. Keyser, who completed the course in 1881; there was no graduating class in 1882. There have been 71 males and 156 females, total 227, graduated from the high school. There are four ward school buildings, all brick, as follows: the first, built in 1872, in the Second Ward, on the west half of block 3, costing \$15,000; the second, erected in 1880, in the Third Ward, between Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth streets and between Belmont and Corning avenues, costing \$10,000; the third, erected in the First Ward, in 1881, on block 111, cost \$6,000; the fourth, erected in 1884, in the Fourth Ward, situated west of block 160, cost \$12,000. A high school building, situated in the west part of the city, costing \$30,000, was completed in 1893. A new ward building for the Fourth Ward, costing \$10,000, was erected in 1899, in place of the original one, which was taken down.

#### WHEATLAND (OR HARD-PAN) DISTRICT, NO. 34.

This district was formed July 8, 1869, and embraced a tract in Mound Valley township, west of Pumpkin Creek, and north of the line between townships 32 and 33. The first election was held at the house of C. Lyerly, July 2, 1869. J. M. Richardson was the principal one interested in the organization of this district. The first school taught in the district was in a house belonging to Mr. Richardson, by his



son, J. M. Richardson, Jr. The school was taught for several years in this house. Bonds were thereafter issued, and a new school-house erected. In 1870 the officers were: J. M. Richardson, director; William Reeder, clerk; John B. Campbell, treasurer.

#### SNOW HILL DISTRICT, NO. 35.

This district was formed July 9, 1869, and embraced a tract in the southwest part of Osage township, most of it lying in what is now Montgomery county. The first election was held at the house of A. W. Cook, July 20, 1869. When this territory was attached to Montgomery county this district became disorganized. In 1872 a new district was organized, in the extreme southwestern corner of the county, and was given this number. Its first officers were: Wm. Mabrey, director; W. S. Getsyendinger, clerk; W. B. Roberts, treasurer. Mr. Mabrey was director for fourteen years. Some time thereafter a storehouse in Parker was purchased, and moved out to the district for its first school-house.

#### MOUNT ZION DISTRICT, NO. 36.

This district was formed July 10, 1869, and lay in the southwest part of Osage township. The first meeting was held July 20, 1869. Miss Josie Hockett taught her first school in a log cabin on the southeast quarter of section 6, township 32, range 18. The first board now shown by records was that for 1870, and was composed of S. C. Hockett, director; Charles Beggs, clerk; and William Johns, treasurer.

#### TIMBER HILL DISTRICT, NO. 37.

This district was formed July 10, 1869, and lay in the southern part of Osage township. The first election was held at the house of F. Labadie, July 20, 1869. In the fall of 1869,

E. D. Graybill induced the settlers to put up a log house on the southwest corner of Timber Hill town-site, in which that winter he taught the first school in the district. The following winter W. A. Starr taught in this building. A. W. King was clerk in 1870; he is the only officer reported prior to 1871.

#### DENNIS DISTRICT, NO. 38.

Was formed July 10, 1869, and lay in the central part of Osage township, and embraced the present town-site of Dennis. A log house was put up in this district in the spring of 1870, in which Mrs. Lapham taught a three-months' school. After the location of Dennis in this district a new frame school-house was erected in town, in the summer of 1885. The district board in 1870 consisted of N. P. Lapham, director; George W. Major, clerk; Jacob Beaty, treasurer. The first frame school-house burned down and thereafter a two-room building was erected farther north than the site of the old house. Since employing two teachers, the principals, or teachers in the more advanced room, have been: 1889-90, E. H. Easterling; 1890-91, S. L. Fogleman; 1891-92, Rose Williams; 1892-95, C. E. Boye; 1895-96, Olive Ten Broeck; 1896-97, C. S. Neale; 1897-98, E. C. McKinley; 1898-99, S. F. McClelland; 1899-1900, E. C. McKinley; 1900-01, S. O. King.

#### BRADFORD DISTRICT, NO. 39.

On July 10, 1869, an order was made for the formation of this district, but probably it was not acted on, for another order was made on April 6, 1870, under which the district was formed, and lay in the northwest corner of Walton township. The first meeting was held at the house of M. S. Mason, on April 16, 1870, at which George T. Walton, M. S. Mason and

John Lunciford were elected the board for that year.

#### MOUND VALLEY DISTRICT, NO. 40.

Is situated in the central-eastern part of Mound Valley township, and includes the town of Mound Valley. This district was formed in the summer of 1869, although there is nothing now on file showing that fact. The first annual report was made August 31, 1870, by Alexander Honrath, clerk; it shows 33 children in the district, 22 in school, with an average attendance of 11. In 1870 the board was composed of Josephus Moore, Alexander Honrath, and L. C. Wilmoth. A new two-story building was erected in the summer of 1882, and in 1885 an addition was made thereto. In 1885, the high school was organized, and since then there have been graduated 15 boys and 35 girls, total 50. Since the establishment of the high school, the principals have been: A. Moore, three years; J. T. McGee, two years; A. D. Martin, two years; A. J. Lovett, two years; C. H. Williams, two years; S. L. Fogleman, two years; and again, A. J. Lovett, three years.

#### ENTERPRISE DISTRICT, NO. 41.

While there is no record thereof, an attempt must have been made in the summer of 1869 to form the district, which probably failed. It was formed May 12, 1871, and lay in the southeastern corner of Mound Valley township. The first meeting was held May 27, 1871, on petition therefor, signed by Joseph Moore, Alexander Honrath, John Campbell, S. W. Slocum, E. Tanner and others. The first school in the district was taught in 1879, by Della Wilson, in a cabin on section 23, belonging to Rev. F. L. Walker. A school-house was not built until 1880.

#### SALEM DISTRICT, NO. 42.

On June 7, 1870, E. P. Emery, Wm. R. Ables, and others petitioned for a district in the south-western part of Walton township. I find no record of its formation, but it seems to have been organized soon after the presentation of the petition. S. B. Shaffer, J. A. Jones and G. B. Hughes are reported as the board in 1870. A school-house was built near the southeast corner of section 20 in the spring of 1871. In 1890 this first building was replaced by a new and much better one. The first school in the district was taught by Miss Sophronia Emery, in a log house on R. P. Clark's claim, in the fall of 1870.

#### ALTAMONT DISTRICT, NO. 43.

Was formed October 4, 1869, and embraced the southeast corner of Labette township and the northeastern corner of Mount Pleasant township, and includes the city of Altamont. In 1870 the board were G. Conner, J. C. Murphy, and John Elston. The first school-house was built in 1872, and was used until the number of scholars became so great that it would no longer accommodate them in any way, when it was sold to J. T. Waller, by whom it was moved across the street, where it still stands, and is used for a dwelling. In 1880 the district employed J. B. Jones to erect a new house upon the same site formerly occupied by the old one. The district again outgrew this house and in 1884 another room had to be added. The building thus improved accommodated the district until 1891, when \$4,000 in bonds were voted, the old school-house was sold to the Christians for the purpose of being reconstructed into a church building, and a new two-story brick school-house erected under a contract with J. B. Jones, occupying the same site as its

predecessors. Since the erection of the second school-house in 1880, and the employment of more than one teacher, the principals of the school, so far as I have been able to learn, have been: Lizzie Sullivan, Alvah Shick, Mr. Cotton, T. J. Gobble, H. A. Mossman, J. M. Chansler, H. C. Long, W. H. Conner, Charles Bell, Dean Coleman, D. H. Martin, S. O. King, Charles Harrington, L. Lightfoot, J. F. Johnson, S. F. McClelland.

SPRING VALLEY (OR CATALPA) DISTRICT, NO. 44.

In 1870 the petition of John Connor, John W. Logan and other citizens was presented for the formation of a district in the southwest corner of Liberty township, which petition was granted, and on January 29, 1870, an order made under which District No. 44 was organized. William F. Gross, William J. Iliff and S. W. Collins were the first board, elected at the first meeting of the district, held at the house of W. J. Iliff, February 11, 1870.

ELLIS DISTRICT, NO. 45.

Is situated in the northeastern part of Elm Grove township. I find no record whatever in reference to it prior to 1871, except the names of the board for 1870; they were Daniel McIntyre, John Lane, and Madison Sharp. The district must have been formed early in 1870. The first school in the district was taught in the summer of 1870, by Sarah Ackerson, afterwards the wife of Henry G. Pore, in her own claim cabin on the northeast quarter of section 14. The school-house was built in 1872, and Lon Blanchard taught the first school in it.

LANEVILLE (OR HARD SCRABBLE) DISTRICT, NO. 46.

Is in the central part of Neosho township, west of the Neosho River. The record is entirely silent as to the date of its formation, and I find no report prior to 1871, but in 1870 the board consisted of E. H. Taylor, Samuel Frank, and E. H. Wells.

HIATT DISTRICT, NO. 47.

Was formed March 24, 1870, and embraced a tract of land in the southwest of Liberty township and the southeast of Labette township. This district was formed on the petition of Caleb Haskill, T. M. Gibson, and others, dated December 30, 1869. The first school meeting was held at the house of C. T. Haskill, April 4, 1870. P. M. Gibson, Edward Hiatt and C. F. Haskill are the officers reported for 1871.

PLEASANT VALLEY, MORNING, OR KNOT-HOLE DISTRICT, NO. 48.

Is situated in the northeast corner of Liberty and northwest corner of Montana township. In the spring of 1870 the first school was taught, in George Metcalf's old log house on the northeast quarter of section 13, by Miss Sidney Johnson; this was a subscription school. In the spring of 1871 an old store building was moved from Labette and placed on the northeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 12, township 32, range 20; this was the first school-house. Two years later it was moved over onto the southeast quarter. The first school board, as now shown on the county records, was in 1870, and consisted of James

Morning, director; S. S. Saytor, clerk; George Morning, treasurer. I judge from all that appears that the district was probably organized early in 1870.

RIPON DISTRICT, NO 49.

Is situated in the central-southern part of Elm Grove township, bordering on the State line. I have no means of telling from the public records when this district was formed. The first official paper relative to it which I have been able to find is the report made by Jonas Burris, on August 31, 1870, showing 48 children in the district, with an average attendance of 21 at school. I find among the records a letter signed by Ben M. Smith, dated September 8, 1870, in which he says that the district is composed mostly of single men; that their school has been kept but two weeks, the teacher having been paid off and quit; and that in reality the district has no organization. The officers reported for 1870 were: Colton B. Pratt, director; B. M. Smith, clerk; and W. D. Scoggans, treasurer. It is therefore likely the report made by Mr. Burris should be credited to some other district

STAR DISTRICT, NO. 50.

This district was probably formed in 1870, lying in the southeastern part of Elm Grove township. The first school was taught by Miss Unthank, in the house of Harvey Jones. The first board were: Ira Peck, director; D. D. P. Lucas, clerk; and George W. McGeyor, treasurer. The first public school was taught in the winter of 1871 and 1872, by Miss Frank Hall.

DRESSER (NOW VALEDA) DISTRICT, NO. 51.

There is nothing of record showing any successful effort at organizing this district till December 29, 1875, when an order for its forma-

tion was made, and the first election had on March 6, 1876. The first school-house in this district was an old store building bought and moved from Parker to near the center of section 20, township 34, range 18, in 1879. In 1886 this building was sold, changes were made in the boundary of the district, and the school-house site was changed and placed at Valeda, which had just been started. A new school-house was erected in 1886.

RAYBURN DISTRICT, NO. 52.

This district lies in the central-eastern part of Mount Pleasant township. It was organized under an order made June 8, 1870, and the first election was directed to be held at the house of John R. Eldridge on June 20, 1870. The following officers were elected: (William Skilling, director, but declined to serve); Henry Story, director; G. A. W. Grant, clerk; John Eldridge, treasurer. In 1871 the board consisted of Henry Story, director; G. A. W. Grant, clerk; W. Jones, treasurer. In the fall of 1870 Susan Story taught a subscription school in the Morrison claim house, on the southeast quarter of section 14. In the spring of 1871 the school-house was built, in which, commencing that fall, John Hamblin taught the first public school in the district.

O'CONNER DISTRICT, NO. 53.

Was organized June 13, 1870, embracing the central-northern part of Walton township. The first school meeting was held at the residence of James Cahill, June 25, 1870. The first officers were William O'Brien, James Cahill, and Timothy O'Conner.

MAPLE GROVE DISTRICT, NO. 54.

On June 20, 1876, Ernest Wadsack, John Richardson, and some twenty more residents of

that territory, petitioned for the formation of a district in the northeast corner of Fairview township, which on July 6th was granted and District No. 54 was organized. This district was, however, originally organized much earlier than this, although there is no record of the fact. In 1870 the board consisted of John Richardson, director; J. L. Williams, clerk; —, treasurer. These are the first officers now shown by the records. The first school in the district was taught by Mrs. W. S. Park, in a cabin on the Dike farm, in the winter of 1870.

FRANKLIN DISTRICT, NO. 55.

Is located in the northwestern corner of North township. There is no record showing the time of its formation, but I learn it was organized in 1868 through the efforts of Mr. Ballentine; perhaps the organization was not till the next year; at least, there is no record of any officers reported in 1869. The neighbors built a small board shanty on the northwest quarter of section 36, in which Elvira Bingham, daughter of A. W. Jones, taught the first school, in the fall of 1868. A year or two after that the district was enlarged, and a new school-house costing \$700 was built on section 25, in 1872. This school-house was blown down in the storm that occurred on June 7, 1900. A new building was at once erected. In 1870 the district board was composed of George Skelton, director; Samuel Ballentine, clerk; Robert C. Livesay, treasurer. This is the first that appears on the county record respecting this district.

ANGOLA DISTRICT, NO. 56.

Was organized in the central part of Canada township, July 13, 1878. The first meeting was held August 19, 1878, officers elected and

organization perfected. I find no account of any earlier organization, although it seems probable that one must at least have been attempted.

CAMPBELL DISTRICT, NO. 57.

Is located in the south-central part of Oswego township, and must have been organized early in 1870, although there is no record showing such fact. On August 31, 1870, T. Clark reported 47 children in the district, 41 attending school. The officers reported for 1870 are: John Overdeer, director; William Steel, clerk. Alice Spaulding was first teacher, her school commencing in the fall of 1871, in the new school-house which had just been built.

ROCK CREEK (OR ARNOLD) DISTRICT, NO. 58.

Was organized in the eastern part of Canada township, July 23, 1878, and the first meeting held August 21, 1878. No record of any earlier organization exists, so far as I have discovered.

PIONEER DISTRICT, NO. 59.

As originally constituted, embraced the northwest quarter of Mount Pleasant township. I find nothing on record showing anything of the formation of the district, or anything in reference thereto prior to 1870. For that year the district board are reported to be B. F. Jones, S. M. Canady, and O. B. Clark. The school-house was built in the summer of 1871, and the first school was taught by Mrs. H. Pottinger, wife of Samuel Pottinger.

LAKE CREEK DISTRICT, NO. 60.

Is situated in the central-western part of Hackberry township. There is nothing on record showing when it was formed or what it did

prior to 1871, when R. M. Roberts, John M. Morse and William Stevenson are recorded as the officers.

CLOSSAR (OR UNION) DISTRICT, NO. 61.

A petition of Daniel Corell and a number of the neighbors was presented for the formation of a district in the southwest corner of Richland township. There is no record of the date of this, but it seems to have been formed sometime in 1870. The officers for that year were: J. F. Chamberlain, director; F. M. Mendenhall, clerk; and Samuel Hull, treasurer.

FROG POND DISTRICT, NO. 62.

Was formed May 18, 1872, on a petition of P. H. Cherry, G. Spicer and others, and is situated in the southeast corner of Neosho township.

MOUNT TRIUMPH DISTRICT, NO. 63.

James M. Kinnamon, Isaac Wylch and others presented a petition for the formation of a district in the central-northern part of Mound Valley township. It was formed June 18, 1872, an order for its formation having been made on May 20, 1872. It lies in both Osage and Mound Valley townships.

CRANSTON DISTRICT, NO. 64.

A petition of James Cahill, Wm. O'Brien, Timothy O'Connor and a number of others was presented to the superintendent for the formation of a school district embracing the central-northern part of Walton township. This petition seems to have been acted upon, and the district formed in June, 1870. There is no record giving anything definite as to its formation farther than is here stated. November 10, 1871, on the application of Wm.

M. Rogers, the first election was called for this district.

GLOBE DISTRICT, NO. 65.

Miss Ida Stevenson taught the first school in the district, in the fall of 1870, in a small claim building belonging to J. O. Stotts. There is no record showing when the district was organized, but it was probably early in 1870. The record shows the board in 1870, which must have been the first board, consisted of — Ames, director; O. F. Presson, clerk; and George McDole, treasurer. The first public school was taught by Mrs. H. A. Boleman, in one of the rooms of her dwelling, commencing in the fall of 1871; she taught several terms in succession there. The district is located in the northeastern part of Mound Valley township.

LEE DISTRICT, NO. 66.

Is situated in the northwestern corner of Labette township. We have no record of its formation or work prior to 1872, when Alfred H. Lee, E. D. Graybill and John B. Daniels were reported as the board.

M'CLINTOCK (OR TRENTON) DISTRICT, NO. 67.

Was organized December 15, 1870, and embraced the southeast corner of Howard township. The first meeting in the district was in the house of E. B. Baldwin, on April 8, 1871, at which the following officers were elected: W. J. McClintock, director; E. B. Baldwin, clerk; Benjamin Wade or J. M. Hart, treasurer. This was the first district organized in Howard township. The first school in the district was taught by J. M. Hart, in a little cabin on his place, in the fall and winter of 1871. This was a subscription school. In the spring of 1872 a new school-house was built, and,



commencing April 22, 1872, W. J. Millikin taught the first public school in the district.

FAIRVIEW DISTRICT, NO. 68,

Is located in the western part of Mound Valley township. C. H. Lesley, E. Stapleton and Alexander Moore were interested in the securing of its organization, which was effected under an order made December 30, 1870. The first school-house was built by subscription, out of native lumber, and a school taught therein by Mrs. Hess, in 1871. That year bonds were voted, and the house was remodeled and fixed for a winter school, which was held the following winter. After the division of the district in 1883, additional bonds were voted, and a new school-house was built in 1884. Elisha Stapleton, J. J. Dickens and A. Moore were the first officers.

UNION DISTRICT, NO. 69,

Was formed January 31, 1871, and embraced the southwest corner of Labette township. The first meeting was at the house of Isaac Padget, February 20, 1871. In the summer of 1871 the first school-house was built in the district; this was the first school-house in the township. The first school in the township was taught in this building by Miss Carrie M. Beggs, commencing the first of December, 1871. Andrew J. Heaton, Robert Vance and S. M. Hinshaw were the first officers; in the spring of 1871 John P. Hight, Isaac Padget and S. M. Hinshaw were elected.

FOLAND DISTRICT, NO. 70,

Was formed February 8, 1871, and lay in the eastern part of Hackberry township and western part of Richland. The first meeting was held at the house of Isaac Butterworth, in February, 1871. The first officers were Samuel

Cellars, L. H. Reed, and L. H. Lockwood. The school-house was built, but not plastered, in the fall of 1871, and in that winter James Dickey taught the first school. A new school-house was erected in 1892.

NEWELL DISTRICT, NO. 71,

Was formed May 1, 1871. It lay in the southwest corner of Fairview and the northwest corner of Hackberry. The first meeting was held at the house of G. W. Williams, and the following elected as the board: James Newell, director; Samuel B. Good, clerk; James Pottinger, treasurer. The first school was taught in a building belonging to James McCoy. This district has had two school-houses; one was built in the early "seventies," and it was replaced by a new house late in the "nineties."

VALLEY DISTRICT, NO. 72,

Was formed May 3, 1871. It lies in the central-eastern part of Elm Grove township. The first meeting was held at the house of Henry Pitman, on May 15, 1871. L. Edmondson, D. S. Robbins and C. — were the first officers.

WIMMER (NOW EDNA) DISTRICT, NO. 73.

An order was made May 3, 1871, for the formation of District No. 73, lying in the central part of Elm Grove township, and an election called for May 15, 1871, at the house of Owen Wimmer. The district failed to organize under this order, and on May 30, 1872, a new order was made for the organization of the district, and the first election called for May 30, 1872, at the house of P. C. Goodwin. The building in the district was erected in the fall of 1872, and completed the fore part of December. It was completed on Monday, and on Tuesday W. J. Millikin opened therein

the first school in the district. The building stood in the southeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 30, township 34, range 19, and when the railroad was laid out the projected line ran directly through the building. It was then sold to Thomas Bickman, and moved a little to the north and used as a Free Methodist church. In the fall of 1886 a new four-room school-house was erected and furnished, at a cost of \$2,000. Since then the principals of the school have been: 1887-89, A. R. Bell; 1889-90, A. D. Martin; 1890-92, M. N. Baldwin; 1892-94, C. C. Robbins; 1894-96, A. J. Lovett; 1896-98, H. W. Todd; 1898-99, S. O. King; 1899-1900, L. Lightfoot; 1900-01, J. F. Johnson.

PATRICK (OR SHROUT) DISTRICT, NO. 74.

Embraced a tract of land lying north and west of Oswego, extending from the Neosho river to the west side of the township, and was organized May 8, 1871, on a petition dated April 14, 1871, signed by J. H. Holt, R. P. Bagby, Elisha Hammer, A. C. Baker, and others. The first election was held May 19, 1871. This district has undergone many changes since its organization. After the organization of the district, the school was taught for some time in the old college building. After that was torn down and removed a new school-house was built.

ELMWOOD (OR SLOCUM) DISTRICT, NO. 75.

Is located in the central and northern part of Mound Valley township, and was, on the petition of Josephus Moore, Seth Wells, R. W. Simpson, and others, organized by order dated May 12, 1871. The first meeting was held May 25, 1871. The first school officers were S. W. Slocum, Wm. Robbins, and Henry Terwilliger. The school-house was built in the

summer of 1871. The following winter a three-months' school was taught by Mr. Jones, at a salary of \$25 per month.

ST. JOHN DISTRICT, NO. 76.

This district is situated in the central and western part of Osage township. I have not been able to find any record giving an account of its formation, nor have I found any of the old settlers who can give such information. But the order for its formation was evidently made in 1871. It is said that the first teacher in the district was Miss Sadie Chambers. This has been one of the most enterprising districts in the county, and the school has always stood high.

PLEASANT HILL DISTRICT, NO. 77.

On July 27, 1871, George W. Blake, J. A. Jamison, P. Stevenson, and a great many others petitioned for a district in the southeast part of Osage township, on which the superintendent made an order October 20, 1871, forming it into District No. 77, and appointing the first school meeting to be held at the house of J. L. Hills. The first officers consisted of J. T. Hills, director; George W. Blake, clerk; P. Stevenson, treasurer.

WILLOW BRANCH DISTRICT, NO. 78.

Lies in the western part of Mount Pleasant township and eastern part of Canada, and was organized on an order made October 20, 1871. The first meeting was held at the house of S. Briner, November 19, 1871. W. H. Steel was elected director; D. S. Jackson, treasurer; W. H. Mapes, clerk. The first school-house was built by subscription, and in this the day and Sunday-schools were held until the erection of the new house.

## SYLVAN DALE DISTRICT, NO. 79.

This district is situated in the northwest part of Osage township, and was organized in 1870, on the petition of Wm. Padget and others. The first school was taught by Miss Maxwell; Maggie Adams and Edna Blake were early teachers. The first officers were David Lensy, Paulus Eisley, and A. H. Lockhart.

## ELSTON DISTRICT, NO. 80.

Was formed January 3, 1872, on petition of J. T. Waller, John Elston, J. O. King, Thomas D. Bickham and others, on December 19, 1870, in the corners of Fairview, Liberty, Labette and Mount Pleasant townships. The first meeting was held January 20, 1872, at the house of M. V. B. Watson. The following officers were elected: Silas Prayther, director; M. V. B. Watson, clerk; J. O. King, treasurer.

## MILLER (OR THE BRICK) DISTRICT, NO. 81.

On June 10, 1872, an order was made for the organization of District No. 81, in the northwest corner of the county, on the request of J. B. Quinn. It seems that this territory was thereafter formed into a union district, and on March 18, 1875, a new district with this same number was organized, in the southeast corner of Walton township. The first meeting was held April 24, 1875.

## CALDWELL DISTRICT, NO. 82.

Originally embraced three miles square in the northeast corner of Labette township, and was formed January 10, 1872. The first meeting was held at the house of John M. Caldwell, January 5, 1872, at which the following officers were elected: L. A. Wood, director; John M. Caldwell, clerk; James Martin,

treasurer. Miss Carrie M. Beggs taught the first school, in a private claim house. School-house completed in 1872.

HENDERSON (NOW WILSONTON) DISTRICT,  
NO. 83.

On January 1, 1872, E. M. Reeder and a number of others petitioned for a district in the central and western part of Labette township. On May 15, 1872, an order for its formation was made, and the first meeting called for May 30, at the house of William Collins. In the summer Miss Carrie M. Beggs taught the first school in a claim house. School-house built in 1872.

## EMMONS DISTRICT, NO. 84.

This district was formed in the northwest part of Canada township, on an order made March 5, 1872. The first election was held at the house of J. Herrington, March 28, 1872, Otho Wilson taught the first school. Bonds in the sum of \$1,000 were issued, and a house was built in the fall. Alexander Duncan taught the first school therein. The first board was composed of J. J. Higgins, Alexander Duncan, and James Sweet.

## LIEB DISTRICT, NO. 85.

On March 26, 1872, Christian Lieb and a number of others petitioned for the formation of a district in the southeast of Canada and northeast part of Howard townships, and on May 15th an order was made for its formation. The first election was called for May 30th, at the house of Christian Lieb. This school-house was built in the summer of 1872, and that winter J. K. Russell taught the first school therein. The first board consisted of Christian Lieb, John D. Vance, and Jonathan Pearson.

## SUNNY SIDE DISTRICT, NO. 86,

Was formed June 3, 1872, in the territory adjoining Chetopa on the north. The first meeting was held in the house of J. C. Wright, June 14, 1872, at which the following officers were elected: J. C. Wright, director; L. D. Bovee, clerk; J. B. Sartain, treasurer. A house was built that year.

## CECIL (OR LIGGETT) DISTRICT, NO. 87,

Is situated in the southwest corner of Hackberry township. The record of its organization and early history is all a blank. A house costing \$600 is said to have been built in 1872; and the first officers are said to have been William Liggett, director; W. B. Trissol, clerk; A. J. Barnes, treasurer.

## EXCELSIOR DISTRICT, NO. 88,

Was formed in the northern part of Mound Valley township, May 3, 1873. The first meeting was held July 30, 1873. Samuel Mayginnis, J. D. Ellison and J. F. Butts were the first school officers. The first school was taught by J. F. Finley, in a house belonging to J. F. Butts, in 1873. The school-house in the district was built in 1874.

## NOBLE DISTRICT, NO. 89.

In 1872 a large petition was presented for the formation of a district in the southeast corner of Mount Pleasant township. There is no record of the formation thereof until the spring of 1873. The first meeting was held and the officers elected May 27, 1873.

## KEELER DISTRICT, NO. 90,

Was organized in the northwest corner of Elm Grove township, April 26, 1873. The first meeting was held June 5, 1873.

## BELLE DISTRICT, NO. 91,

Was formed in the west part of Mount Pleasant township. December 31, 1873. The first meeting was held January 31, 1874.

## HAWKINS (OR KINGSTON) DISTRICT, NO. 92,

Is located in the southwest corner of Elm Grove township, and was organized January 29, 1874. The first meeting was held March 3, 1874.

## TWIN MOUND DISTRICT, NO. 93,

Was formed in the northwestern part of Osage township, April 4, 1874. The first meeting was held May 23, 1874.

## RICHLAND (OR YOUNG) DISTRICT, NO. 94,

Was formed in the northern part of Canada township, June 18, 1874. The first meeting was held August 1, 1874. A school-house was built in the district in the fall of 1874. The first school in the district was taught by Richard McKenzie.

## JANES DISTRICT, NO. 95.

April 15, 1872, W. H. Mapes and others petitioned for the formation of a district in the southwest corner of Mount Pleasant township. It does not appear to have been organized prior to June 18, 1874, when the order therefor was made and the organization completed, August 1, 1874. The first school meeting was held at the residence of Noah Guymann. John Hulse was elected director and Milo Hildreth, clerk. The first school was taught in the summer of 1874, by Mrs. Mary Owens, in a house belonging to Mr. Decker, with an average attendance of less than 4 scholars. School was held in rented buildings until the fall of 1878, when

a new school-house was erected, the first school in which was taught by Mrs. Eliza Rust.

HAZEL DELL DISTRICT, NO. 96,

Is a joint district, situated near the northwest corner of the county, in connection with territory in Montgomery county. It was organized in 1872, or at least steps were taken as early as that to secure an organization, and a house was built very soon after its organization. The first board consisted of W. T. Fallon, director; J. T. Finley, clerk; J. W. Phebus, treasurer. The first school was taught by John Stroud.

M'KENNA DISTRICT, NO. 97,

Was formed in the northwestern part of Howard township, March 11, 1873. The first meeting was held April 10, 1873. The school-house in this district was first built on the west side of Pumpkin creek, and was thereafter removed to the east side of the creek.

BAYLOR DISTRICT, NO. 98,

Located in the southeastern part of Hackberry township, was formed March 12, 1873. The first meeting was held April 15, 1873.

BELL MOUND DISTRICT, NO. 99,

Was formed in the southeastern part of Mound Valley township, March 14, 1873. The first meeting was held April 11, 1873. The first officers were Cyrus Hopkins, M. F. Wakefield, and Ira Ross. In December, 1873, Herman Wade opened the first school. Colin Hodge was treasurer of this district for a number of years.

PIETY HILL DISTRICT, NO. 100,

Was formed in the southeastern part of Richland township, April 15, 1873. The first meet-

ing was held May 22, 1875. That fall a school-house costing \$900 was erected.

WOODRUFF (OR MILL VALLEY) DISTRICT,  
NO. 101.

Notices of formation of this district were posted October 8, 1880. Officers were elected and organization completed November 8, 1880. This district is situated in the western part of Oswego township.

MAPLE GROVE DISTRICT, NO. 102.

Was organized July 16, 1881, in the northwestern part of Osage township. The first meeting was held at the home of M. E. Sparks, July 16, 1881.

COOK DISTRICT, NO. 103,

Is situated in the southern part of Richland township, and was organized July 28, 1881. The first meeting was held at the house of Wm. Cook, July 28, 1881. Daniel Corell, E. C. Albrook and a number of other parties petitioned for the formation of this district. The order is dated June 18, 1881.

M. K. & T. DISTRICT, NO. 104,

Is located in the northwestern part of North township, and was organized June 10, 1882. The first meeting was held at the house of S. E. Cornelius, June 10, 1882.

PLEASANT VIEW DISTRICT, NO. 105,

Is located in the eastern part of Mound Valley township, and was organized December 8, 1883. The first meeting was held at the house of R. Terhune, December 8, 1883. The first school officers were A. B. Gibs, H. K. Baker, and J. C. Lesley. A school-house was built in 1884, and the first school was taught there in the winter of 1884, by Miss Lina Gibs.

## BALLOU DISTRICT, NO. 106.

is situated in the northern part of Labette township; was organized February 16, 1884. The first meeting was held at the house of Robert N. Davis, January 11, 1884.

## MOOREHEAD DISTRICT, NO. 107,

Is located in the northwestern corner of Osage township, and is a joint district.

## ROSEDALE DISTRICT, NO. 108,

Located in the western part of Fairview township, was organized May 6, 1884. The first meeting was held at the house of F. M. Poe, May 16, 1884.

## ROSE HILL DISTRICT, NO. 109,

Located in the south-central part of Elm Grove township, was organized April 30, 1884. The first meeting was held April 30, 1884.

## BARTLETT DISTRICT, NO. 110,

Is situated in the central part of Hackberry township, including the town of Bartlett, and was organized June 3, 1889. The school-house was built that fall, and in it, commencing in December, J. L. Edmundson began teaching the first school in the district. In 1897 an addition was built to the school-house, since which time two teachers have been employed, viz.: 1896-97, H. A. Brundage and daughter; 1897-98, Ada Edmandson and Maud Ball; 1898-99, Bertha Reece and Alta Campbell; 1899-1900, Bertha Reece and Minnie Pickering; 1900-01, Margaret Curtis and Josephine Crane.

## JARBOE DISTRICT, NO. 111.

On February 27, 1892, J. A. Jarboe and William Scott applied for the formation of a

new district, and on March 1st the order was made for the formation of a district embracing territory in Walton and Osage townships. An appeal having been taken from the action of the county superintendent, it was not until July 8th that the hearing was had before the commissioners, when the action of the superintendent was sustained. The first election was held July 18th, at which the following officers were elected: William Turner, director; William Scott, clerk; J. A. Jarboe, treasurer. Bonds were soon issued, and a new school-house costing \$500 was erected on the southeast corner of section 13, in Osage township, in which, on October 10th, the first school was opened by Lillie Willi.

## JOINT DISTRICT, NO. 112,

Is located in Labette and Montgomery counties; that located in Labette county is in Howard and Canada townships. The organization was effected August 7, 1900, and the first meeting was held August 23, 1900. A new school-house was built at once and a school taught the following winter.

## GRADING COUNTRY SCHOOLS.

Prior to 1889 no attempt had been made toward securing uniformity in the course of study and standard of scholarship in the various country schools. At the request of the county superintendent, the county commissioners made an order on July 3, 1889, authorizing a set of Welch's Classification Records for the use of each school district in the county, together with proper blanks for making reports, etc. A circular letter was sent out by the county superintendent to each of the teachers, giving information in reference to the examinations that would be required for



promotion and graduation. Nearly all the schools in the county adopted the prescribed course of study and made preparations for their students to take part in the examinations that should thereafter be held. The first examination under this arrangement was held on April 18, 1890, at a designated place in each township, where schools in such township could be represented. Ninety-nine applicants were examined, 34 of whom (5 boys and 29 girls) attained the required average, and passed. Commencement exercises were held during the early part of June at several places in the county, and on July 1st the final commencement for all of those who had passed the examination was held at the opera house in Oswego. This work has been continued each year since, with very gratifying results. The graduates thus far have been as follows:

Year.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1890 .....	5	29	34
1891 .....	16	34	50
1892 .....	23	32	55
1893 .....	12	22	34
1894 .....	14	15	29
1895 .....	30	54	84
1896 .....	7	37	44
1897 .....	19	26	45
1898 .....	37	58	95
1899 .....	19	28	47
1900 .....	9	23	32
Totals .....	191	358	549

### INSTITUTES.

The first teachers' institute in Labette county was held in Oswego, June 1-4, 1869. It was called and conducted by R. J. Elliott, county superintendent, with the assistance of the teachers of the county. Peter McVicar, state superintendent of public instruction, was pres-

ent one day, and lectured in the evening. On November 9-12, of the same year, a second session was held, at Chetopa, under the same general direction, with an attendance of 24 teachers. On July 12, 1870, the next session was held in Chetopa, under the charge of the superintendent. Prof. B. F. Mudge was present at this institute, and rendered valuable assistance. The next session was held in Oswego, commencing June 12, 1871, with Colonel J. W. Horner in charge and 28 teachers in attendance. General Fraser, state superintendent, visited this institute, and lectured. Two sessions of the institute were held in 1872, the first at Oswego, commencing February 5th, with 35 teachers in attendance; the second at Chetopa commencing November 25th. At the close of this latter session, on November 28th, a county teachers' association was formed. In January, 1873, Miss Mary A. Highy came into office as county superintendent, and continued to hold the position for six years. Under her superintendency the institutes were even more successful than they had formerly been. One session each year was held at Oswego during the first four years of her administration, viz., 1873-76, all of which were well attended and gave good satisfaction.

### NORMAL INSTITUTES.

In the winter of 1877 the Legislature provided for a four-weeks session, with paid instructors, and a charge to those who attended. Previous to this the institutes had been only from two to five or six days; the instruction had been free, generally given by the county superintendent and some of the leading teachers of the county. On August 6, 1877, the first institute under this law opened in Oswego, with Prof. J. B. Holbrook as conductor,

and over 100 teachers in attendance. The most satisfactory results were attained. This institute went far toward popularizing the idea of a long institute under paid instructors. With the exception of two years, all of the normal institutes, commencing with 1877, have been held in Oswego. Those for 1880 and 1892 were held at Parsons. Up to 1885 the attendance at the institute ranged from about 100 to 135. Since that time, with possibly one exception, the attendance has been considerably larger, reaching 200 in 1891 and 302 in 1892; the latter being, it is said, the largest normal institute ever held in the State. The institutes have been under the charge of a conductor, with usually two and sometimes more assistant instructors. The following is a list of the conductors: 1877-78, J. B. Holbrook; 1879-80, L. M. Knowles; 1881, Buel T. Davis; 1882, Lee Tomlin; 1883, J. N. Ross; 1884, Lee Tomlin; 1885-86, J. W. Weltner; 1887, D. E. Sanders; 1888, J. N. E. Monroe; 1889, C. H. Harris; 1890, T. W. Conway; 1891, C. H. Harris; 1892, J. W. Weltner; 1893-94, Guy P. Benton; 1895-96, S. D. Frazier; 1897, Arvin S. Olin; 1898, H. Winsor; 1899, E. M. Wood; 1900, S. D. Frazier.

#### TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

No formal organization of the teachers of the county was had prior to 1872, although teachers' institutes had been held since 1869. On November 28, 1872, the teachers' institute having just closed, the teachers who had been in attendance came together and organized a county teachers' association. Miss Mary A. Higby, who had just been elected county superintendent, was elected its first president, and Mrs. E. Williams, secretary. An association has been maintained most of the time

since then, a part of the time in a very efficient condition, but sometimes indications of life were scarcely discernible. The meetings have been sometimes quarterly, and sometimes not so frequently. Nearly all parts of the county have been favored with these meetings, and they have done much toward unifying the work in the county and maintaining a sympathy between the teachers and the patrons of the schools.

#### PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

A number of parties at one time or another have started private schools in various parts of the county, some of which have run for quite a length of time, and others have been short-lived. At the close of Miss Mary A. Higby's term as county superintendent she conducted a private school for a number of months. Subsequently Mrs. J. R. Boulter taught a private school for quite a length of time. C. C. Robins started a school in Oswego, but only conducted it a short time, because of its not being sufficiently attended to justify its continuance. B. R. Cunningham as well as other parties in Chetopa conducted classes for a greater or less length of time. Several similar enterprises have also been had at Parsons. In 1884 Lyman N. Judd opened an institute at Altamont, but failing to get a sufficient amount of patronage removed it to Oswego, but here, too, he met with less success than he had hoped, and after a short time abandoned it.

#### COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL.

On September 15, 1892, a private school was opened in one of the rooms of the public school building in Altamont by T. B. Hanna, who had been secured by the county superin-

tendent to make the experiment, with the hope that it would develop into a county high school under the provisions of the general law. The school continued during the year and was measurably successful, reaching a total enrollment of 64 pupils. Mrs. Lucy Best, the county superintendent, not being of the opinion that a proposition to establish a county high school could be carried, if submitted to a popular vote, as required by the general law, secured the passage of a private act by the Legislature, in 1893, establishing a high school at Altamont. When this action became generally known, it was strongly condemned in many parts of the county, and the opposition to the carrying out of the project was very decided, and came from a large proportion of the people.

However, as required by the act, the county commissioners at their April (1893) session, appointed a board of six trustees, to prepare for and open the school, selecting two from each commissioner's district, viz.: Nelson Case and J. E. Van Sant, of Oswego, from the first district; W. A. Huff, of Altamont, and Benjamin Johnson, of Mound Valley, from the second district; William Scott, of Dennis, and J. M. Birt, of Parsons, from the third district. Soon after their appointment, this board met and organized and decided to open the school the following September. The board at the proper time made a tax levy for the purpose of erecting a building and of paying for the running expenses of the school. A suit was thereupon brought by those who were opposing the establishment of the school, to enjoin the collection of this tax, and thereby to test the validity of the law establishing the school. The defense of this case was conducted by Nelson Case, assisted by W. B. Glasse, who were employed by the friends of the school. At the conclusion of the trial in

the district court, a judgment was rendered for the defendants, dissolving the temporary injunction. The case was carried on an error to the supreme court, where the judgment of the district court was affirmed.

Notwithstanding the fact that the injunction proceedings had prevented the raising of any revenue the first year, the teachers employed proceeded with their work, with no assurance of receiving any compensation other than the faith they and their friends had in the successful outcome of the litigation in favor of the school. All understood that if the law was held valid, the school would go on and the teachers would be paid; but, on the other hand, if the courts held the law invalid, the school would fail and the teachers would have given a year's work without compensation. Rooms were rented in Altamont and the school was opened with appropriate ceremonies September 4, 1893. Addresses were made by Nelson Case, Mrs. Lucy Best and some others. On the following day the work of the school was put into practical operation, with an enrollment at the opening of 84 students. During the year the attendance reached 147. The validity of the law establishing the school having then been declared by the highest court, the trustees proceeded with the erection of the building. The structure was commenced in the fall of 1894 and was completed the following spring. The dedicatory address was delivered by Nelson Case May 4, 1895. The entire cost of the building, furnishings, and improving of the ground was as follows:

Building proper .....	\$18,221 50
Architect .....	720 00
Heating apparatus .....	2,000 00
Blackboards .....	493 97
Furniture .....	1,378 68

Piano .....	\$ 350 00
Outhouses, walks and other expenses on grounds .....	730 95

Total cost of the plant.....\$23,805 10

The faculty has consisted of four teachers until the present year; five are now employed. T. B. Hanna was principal the first five years; since then W. M. Kyser has been principal. The enrollment for the seven years has been as follows: 146, 176, 178, 151, 179, 183, 146. The first graduating class went out in 1896, and the several graduating classes have been as follows: 1896, boys 8, girls 11, total 19; 1897, boys 7, girls 13, total 20; 1898, boys 9, girls 17, total 26; 1899, boys 9, girls 27, total 36; 1900, boys 16, girls 17, total 33; whole number of graduates, boys 49, girls 85, total 134.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADUATES.

Herewith is shown a condensed table giving the graduates of the common and high schools of the county:

Yr.	HIGH SCHOOLS										COMMON SCHOOLS		WHOLE NO. OF GRADUATES BY YEARS		
	PARSONS		CHETOPA		OSWEGO		MOUND VALLEY		COUNTY		Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female					
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
1881	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1
1882	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1883	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	1	2	4	4	6
1884	1	9	10	3	2	5	5	1	4	1	1	12	19	12	19
1885	2	8	10	3	1	4	0	8	8	8	5	17	22	17	22
1886	2	3	5	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	6	8	14	6	14
1887	1	10	11	2	5	7	1	1	2	1	5	21	26	5	21
1888	0	0	0	3	4	7	2	7	9	2	13	12	19	7	12
1889	1	12	13	1	5	10	14	4	5	10	1	21	29	8	21
1890	0	9	9	0	9	9	1	3	4	0	1	1	1	1	1
1891	2	5	7	4	8	12	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	16	34
1892	3	13	16	5	5	10	2	10	12	1	4	2	23	32	55
1893	3	11	16	7	13	1	3	4	0	2	2	12	22	34	24
1894	5	3	9	0	10	0	9	9	3	3	6	14	15	29	23
1895	5	8	13	5	4	9	1	5	6	0	2	30	54	84	41
1896	9	8	13	4	4	8	3	13	16	2	2	4	8	11	19
1897	3	15	20	1	8	9	3	6	9	0	5	11	20	19	26
1898	16	22	28	1	7	8	3	7	10	2	3	5	9	17	26
1899	10	13	23	0	8	8	1	5	6	0	3	8	9	27	36
1900	6	15	21	1	7	8	2	10	12	2	7	9	16	17	25
	71	108	227	44	97	141	27	99	126	15	35	50	49	85	134
	101	158	259	54	99	139	27	104	131	35	54	99	39	83	122

#### HOBSON NORMAL INSTITUTE.

The Friends' Yearly Meeting of Iowa having decided to establish a school for colored children, a committee by them appointed to locate the same decided upon its location at Parsons, and on March 23, 1882, the school was opened. The basis of the fund for starting this school was \$1,000, from a legacy left by Mr. Hobson to be used for the benefit of colored people, and in his honor the school was named Hobson Normal Institute. Prof. D. W. Boles had charge of the school from its organization until his death, July 8, 1890, since which time during the remaining life of the institution A. W. Hadley was principal. Both Messrs. Boles and Hadley were assisted by their wives, and also scholars in the higher grades taught some. The institute had a fine two-story frame building on the corner of Gandy avenue and Twenty-fourth street. It was furnished with maps, charts, reference books, and other material adapted to the instruction in the common branches and the natural sciences. A score or more graduated from the teachers' advanced course, and a larger number completed the teachers' elementary course. Many of these themselves became teachers in schools at other points. However, the parties having charge of this institution, after an experience of a few years, found the patronage was not sufficient to justify its continuance. When the Home for the Friendless was started in 1896, the building which had been erected for this school was sold to the Home, and Hobson Normal Institute ceased to exist.

#### SACRED HEART ACADEMY.

This institution is located at Parsons and

is under the control of the Catholic church. From 1890 to 1896 the Sisters of Loretta had charge of it; with Mother Mary Bernard, principal. Since then it has been under the care of the Sisters of Charity.

### OSWEGO COLLEGE.

The first private school of a high grade established in the county was planned and inaugurated by Rev. R. P. Bukey, under the above designation. It was located on the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 17, township 33, range 21, a little northwest of the city of Oswego. In the summer of 1870 Mr. Bukey erected a very nice-appearing two-story frame building, 20x36 feet, which contained two good school-rooms. Under his employment Miss Mary E. Claypool opened the school the first week in September, 1870. She remained in charge of the school until the close of the school year the following June, and was the only teacher till the close of December. After the school opened the attendance was so good and the prospects were so flattering that Mr. Bukey planned to largely increase its capacity and to provide for the boarding of those who came from a distance. He secured the cooperation of John D. Gillette, who was a man of some means, and during the fall and winter of 1870 erected a two-story 20 by 26 feet frame addition, and also a kitchen and accompanying rooms, which were ready for occupancy in January, 1871. The teaching force was increased by securing Prof. Allen C. Baker as teacher of mathematics. Rev. J. H. Leard was also elected president of the college, but his relation to it was only nominal that year. The following year the faculty consisted of Rev. J. H. Leard, president; Prof. A. C. Baker,

teacher of mathematics; Miss P. D. Bullock, teacher of languages; Miss Ella School teacher of music. Judge S. P. Moore was also announced as teacher of commercial law, but nothing was ever done in his department. There were several boarding students. Neither of the owners had any practical knowledge of school matters, nor was the president able to add any strength to the school. The college opened with very bright prospects, and its first year's history gave promise of its becoming a permanent and flourishing school. Nothing but the inability on the part of those in control to comprehend and provide for its wants prevented its success. After the second year the school hardly had an existence. The original building was purchased by Mrs. Bettis, who removed it to town and transformed it into a residence. The addition was also brought to town, and out of the material a store was constructed.

### OSWEGO COLLEGE FOR YOUNG LADIES.

At a meeting of the Neosho Presbytery, held at Garnett, Kansas, October 3, 1882, a resolution was adopted looking to the establishment of a college within the bounds of the presbytery, and a committee was appointed to report thereon. The committee having reported favorably, Rev. Austin Warner was appointed a committee to lay the matter before the synod, which he did at its October meeting at Ottawa, 1882; and on October 6th, upon the report of the committee, the synod authorized the presbytery to proceed with the establishment of a school as by them proposed. The next day, at a called meeting of the presbytery, a committee of five was appointed to take into consideration the matter of the establish-



ment of such school. A special meeting of the presbytery was called, to be held at Oswego, May 8, 1883, at which it was voted to establish the school at Oswego, and the following were elected as a board of trustees, viz.: Rev. C. H. McCreery, Rev. D. M. Moore, Rev. W. C. Porter, Rev. A. Warner, Rev. John Elliott, B. W. Perkins, C. M. Condon, C. O. Perkins, and Porter Sawyer. Of this board of trustees, B. W. Perkins was elected president, Rev. John Elliott, secretary, and C. M. Condon, treasurer. A few changes were subsequently made in the board. Rev. W. S. Davis was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Mr. Moore, and upon his removal from the State, E. P. Allen was elected to fill the vacancy. C. O. Perkins having died, on October 4, 1887, Nelson Case was elected to fill vacancy caused by such death.

On December 23, 1883, the college was incorporated, a charter therefor having on that day been filed in the office of the secretary of state. On October 4, 1884, on the request of the presbytery therefor, the Synod of Kansas took the college under its jurisdiction.

In the fall of 1885 the citizens of Oswego purchased the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. 21, T. 33, R. 21, and presented it to the college as a site for the school. This property was at the time valued at \$17,000. It had upon it a large brick residence, which was considered one of the finest in the county. In December, 1885, Miss Louise Paull was elected principal of the school, and authorized to select other members of the faculty; and with the faculty thus chosen the school was opened in the brick residence above referred to, January 14, 1886. In 1886 C. H. McCreery was elected (nominally) president of the school, with the view of his taking entire charge of its financial management, and devoting his time

to the raising of funds with which to make improvements and provide an endowment. His employment was in no way to affect the control of the principal in the management of the school proper. Mr. McCreery had served but a few months when family afflictions compelled him to resign. Miss Paull continued in charge until the close of the spring term, in June, 1887. Miss Susan H. Johnson was thereupon elected principal. In the summer of 1887 a large, new frame building was erected upon the college grounds, at a cost of about \$12,000, exclusive of furniture. Miss Johnson continued to serve as principal until the spring of 1893, when Dr. J. F. Hendy was elected president of the college. Dr. Hendy resigned the presidency at the close of 1895, and Dr. William Bishop acted as president during the last half of the school year. At the opening of school, in September, 1896, Dr. M. H. Reasor took charge and served as president two years. During the school year of 1898-99 the college was under the presidency of Miss Delia Proctor. She was succeeded by Miss Margaret L. Hill, who served one year. At the close of the school in 1900, the board of trustees did not see their way open to provide a faculty for the next year, and the school was closed. It is hoped that this suspension is to be but temporary, and that the work of the college may soon be resumed.

#### CHAUTAUQUA LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC CIRCLES.

Among the organizations of a literary character which have been formed in the county, there has probably been no other that has maintained such a permanent existence and done as much good work as have the several branches of the Chautauqua Literary and Sci-



entic Circle which have been organized and carried on in the county. Small circles were organized at Chetopa and Mound Valley, and regular work was done by these for two or three years, but neither circle awakened as much interest as did those of Oswego and Parsons.

#### CASE CIRCLE.

This was the first C. L. S. C. to be formed in the county. It was organized at Oswego, September 26, 1878, and was maintained for the next ten years. Three of its members graduated in the first class in 1882. This circle had an average of about 20 pursuing the work designated by the general officers.

#### GRECIAN CIRCLE.

This circle was organized at Parsons, April

28, 1885, with a membership of 12. Its officers were as follows: President, W. J. Wirt; vice-president, Minnie Merriman; secretary, E. G. Roberts. In October following the circle took up the regular course of study, and had an enrollment of 35 members; many of its members graduated, and for a number of years the circle quite regularly attended the Ottawa Assembly.

#### CARNATION CIRCLE.

In the summer of 1889 a new circle with the above designation was organized, the number pursuing the course having become too great to do effective work in the Grecian circle, as was thought. This new circle had nearly as large membership as its parent, the Grecian, and has done effective work.

# RAILROADS

---

## RAILROADS ATTEMPTED TO BE SECURED.

Before speaking of the railroads that have been constructed, it may be interesting to briefly consider some of the projects which were formed on paper, but which never proceeded far enough to materialize into a road composed of wood and iron. If Labette county had succeeded in securing a large number of miles of railroad within her limits, it has only been after repeated efforts and many failures. I shall not attempt to speak of all the projects that have been instituted for bringing roads to this county, but will mention a few on which some work of a preliminary character was done.

### O. FT. S. & S. R. R.

On December 19, 1868, J. F. Newlon and other citizens of the county obtained a charter for the Oswego, Fort Scott & Sedalia Railroad Company, the purpose of which was to secure the building of a road from Sedalia to Oswego. So far as I know, this was the first railroad charter obtained by our people. The subsequent building of such a line of road to Parsons shows that this first attempt on the part of our citizens was not without some basis on which to rest.

### O. P. & E. P. RY.

On June 30, 1870, a charter was obtained by R. W. Wright, C. H. Bent, and others, for the construction of the Oswego, Parker & El Paso Railway. The intention was to secure a

road from the northeast to Oswego, and thence southwest to Parsons and through the Territory. A great many public meetings were held in the interest of this contemplated road, and in the fall of 1870 a preliminary survey was made from Cherokee through Oswego to Parker. All that seemed lacking to secure the success of this enterprise was the necessary financial aid.

### F. M. & C. R. RY.

Among the visions of the eccentric Colonel Hartshorn was one of a railroad running from Florida to the Columbia River through Labette county. John Elston, R. D. Hartshorn, and others associated with them, procured a charter on October 27, 1870, for the construction of the Florida, Memphis & Columbia River Railway. It was some time before the definite location of this road through the county was agreed upon, and such location was to depend upon the aid that could be secured, but it was finally decided to locate it from Columbus through Montana and Parsons. During 1871, a number of townships voted bonds to aid in the construction of this road.

### M. & N.-W. RY.

My impression is that the Memphis & Northwestern Railway Company was a reorganization of the F. M. & C. R. Ry. Co., of which I have just spoken, or at any rate, that

the two were in some way covering the same territory. This company did quite an amount of work in the winter of 1872-73 on the line of road from Columbus to Parsons. Watson Bros. & Co., of Montana, were the contractors, and secured a large amount of grading to be done and the abutments to be put in for a bridge across the Neosho at that point. This was as far as the work went, and the contractors lost what they had expended in pushing it thus far.

S. FT. & S. F. RY.

Among the many efforts to secure a road from Sedalia or some other point to the northeast of this county, was one by the town of Labette, soon after its location, in 1870. The Sedalia, Fort Scott & Santa Fe Railway Company was organized, and in September, 1870, a preliminary survey was made from Fort Scott to Labette. Arriving at the latter place, the surveying party received a warm welcome, and were feasted at the principal hotel.

P. & S. F. RY.

Parsons was never content with her railroad facilities. There are few points in any of the adjoining counties to which she has not at some time had a projected railroad. In 1872 the proposition was to build a road southwest to Independence, and a very large amount of the paper work was done to secure it, and some propositions for municipal aid were voted upon.

P. & M. RY.

The preliminary work for this road was legally done in 1876. It was to run southeast from Parsons through Montana.

C. O. & W. RY.

In 1883 a company was organized to build

a road from Oswego through the county in a southwesterly direction, and thence on west. Some municipal aid was voted to this road, but not enough to secure its construction.

S. C. & S. E. RY.

In 1886 the Salina, Colorado & Southeastern Railway Company was organized, with a view of running a road through Parsons, Montana and Columbus, extended from these points both northwest and southeast. A right-of-way was secured, and some grading was done. Municipal aid was voted along the line to quite an extent.

CHETOPA'S PROJECTS.

Chetopa was scarcely behind Oswego in her efforts to secure railroad advantages. At a very early day steps were taken by her citizens to induce the building of a road from some point on the Kansas City & Gulf Railway so as to give her an outlet to Kansas City and northeastern points. Representatives of Mr. Joy visited Chetopa, and delegates from that place went to Kansas City, and negotiations were conducted for a long time. Possibly we may say the building of the Minden branch was a realization of these anticipations. Chetopa also made an effort to secure the Atlantic & Pacific, and has always had in view railroad connections with Baxter Springs and the east.

RAILROADS CONSTRUCTED.

From these ineffectual attempts at railroad-building, I wish now to turn to those which resulted in securing the end sought. From the first settlement of the county, two lines of road were confidently expected: one from the north and the other from the east. What

course they would pursue on entering the county was only a matter of conjecture. Both Oswego and Chetopa expected these two roads, and each took active steps toward securing them. While the first efforts of our people were made toward securing an eastern outlet, the road from the north was the one which their efforts seemed the most likely to secure first.

M. K. & T. RY.

The Union Pacific, Southern Branch, had received a large railroad grant with the view of securing its construction down the Neosho valley, and it was now in process of building from Junction City in a southeasterly direction. R. S. Stevens was now the general manager, and had under him a corps of enthusiastic lieutenants. The chief, with one or more of his aides, was early on the field to see what could be secured from the municipalities of this county through which it was proposed to construct the road. Their expectations of aid were very large. There were no bounds to the promises they were ready to make as to what the road would do for the various communities through which it was to be built, and the demands made of these communities were proportionate to the benefits promised. It seemed improbable to secure county bonds, nor was there much hope of obtaining aid from any township which did not have within it a town of some importance. The railroad officers had finally to look to Oswego and Chetopa, and the townships in which they were situated, as the chief if not the only points in this county from which they could expect to receive any aid. These places were repeatedly visited, and the matter of railroad municipal bonds was very largely discussed. Both places felt that they were unable to meet the demands

which the officers were making upon them. Where the railroad officials failed to win through the promises of benefits to be derived, they were more successful in securing a compliance with their demands by the disaster which seemed likely to follow their threatened change of route. It being apparent that these municipalities were not likely to extend to the road the amount of aid which they had demanded, the railroad officials proceeded to change the line which had been originally designated along the Neosho river, and a survey for a new route was made, commencing near the north edges of the county and going west of the Labette river, and striking the State line several miles west of Chetopa. The citizens of Oswego and Chetopa became alarmed. It was evident, as they thought, that the construction of a road where thus located would build up towns on its line which would compel the abandonment of the sites occupied by them. The result was what the railroad officials undoubtedly supposed it would be. These towns were now ready to meet all the demands the company might make upon them. On February 25, 1870, an immense railroad meeting was held at Chetopa, which favored \$100,000 county bonds, and if they could not be secured, then township bonds. But one man in the town was opposed to the project. About this time Messrs. Stevens, Walker, Goss and other railroad officials visited Oswego and Chetopa, and arrangements were finally entered into for the construction of the road at—or, as it afterwards proved, near—these places, on condition of their issuance of bonds as agreed upon. Oswego township, which could with her assessed valuation legally issue bonds to the amount of perhaps \$50,000 or \$60,000, was called upon and did vote bonds to the amount of \$100,000 to aid this road; Rich-

land township gave \$50,000, and Chetopa city \$25,000 for the same purpose. The voting, issuance and delivery of these bonds was secured to the railroad company by a personal obligation entered into between the citizens of these two places to see the contract complied with. Little opposition was had in either place to the voting of the aid thus agreed upon. Of the litigation in respect to these bonds, and the compromise entered into for their payment which afterward took place, I need not here speak. With the aid thus promised and secured, the building of the road was rapidly pushed forward. After reaching the north line of the county, 20 miles of road were laid in eleven days, and in one day four miles and 100 feet were put down. Having reached and passed through Oswego and Chetopa, on Monday, June 6th, the State line was reached, at which time appropriate ceremonies were had. The last spike on the Kansas line was driven by Col. R. S. Stevens, the general manager, and the first spike across the line in the Indian Territory by Col. E. C. Boudinot, the famous Cherokee who had always favored the building of this road. In the evening of June 6, 1870, the first passenger train which ever entered Labette county passed over the road in charge of John C. Hall, conductor, and David Dunham, engineer. The Sedalia branch of this road was thereafter pushed forward to completion as rapidly as could be done, and on February 3, 1871, the connecting rail was laid uniting it with the Junction City branch at Parsons; and on the 5th of that month the first through passenger train from Sedalia to Chetopa passed over the road in charge of L. S. Hamilton, conductor.

**MACHINE SHOPS.**—It was the general understanding, when Parsons was designated as the point where the two branches would unite,

that shops would be located at that place. In October, 1871, George W. Chess, contractor, broke ground for the roundhouse and machine shops, under the supervision of George Thornton, civil engineer. In December following, Proctor & Pardee, contractors, commenced the mason work, and by the close of 1872 the machine shops were so far completed as to be ready to commence operation, and in May, 1873, the roundhouse was ready to receive engines. These shops have been added to from time to time, and have been made very complete in their construction and furnishing. A large force is kept constantly at work in the various departments, making and repairing the rolling stock of the road.

**GENERAL OFFICES.**—Theoretically, the general offices of the company were at Parsons almost from the first building of the road, but, practically, it was not until 1892 that the offices were located at that point. During the time they were in Parsons, negotiations were going on and efforts were being made for an evasion of the law requiring the general offices to be kept within the State. Finally the parties most directly interested consented that, in consideration of the company's making certain additional improvements in Parsons, they would not insist on the general offices remaining with them. When this arrangement was effected, the general offices were moved back to St. Louis in 1896.

**NEW DEPOT AND OFFICE BUILDING.**—The office room for the company offices located at Parsons had become entirely inadequate. To meet the needs, a new building was planned, and on April 1, 1895, work was commenced thereon. It was pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. It is a very fine structure, furnishing accommodations for the office force and a commodious depot.

**SPUR ROAD.**—In 1894 a spur was projected on which work was commenced late in the fall of that year, starting from the main line at Labette and running in an easterly direction to Mineral in Cherokee county. This was completed in the spring of 1895. Its main use is for the transportation of coal from the Cherokee county mines to the company's shops in Parsons.

M. K. & C. RY.

The Memphis, Kansas & Colorado Railway Company was organized for the purpose of securing a road from Cherokee, on the Fort Scott & Gulf road, to Parsons, with a view of its extension both ways. The company was formed early in 1877. Parsons first voted \$10,000 to aid this enterprise, and subsequently, after a protracted discussion, some favoring the project and others opposing making any donation, it was voted to take stock to the amount of \$30,000, the bonds to be delivered upon the completion of the road into Parsons. Neosho township voted \$5,000 in bonds. In April, 1878, the track-laying commenced from Cherokee west, and on July 1, 1878, at 10 o'clock at night, the first train arrived in Parsons. The officers of Parsons refused to deliver the bonds, on the ground that the road was not completed by the time specified in the contract. Litigation ensued, which was carried to the supreme court, where it was finally determined that the city was not liable and the bonds were never delivered. In February, 1880, this road was sold to the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf Railway Company, and steps were at once taken to extend it from Parsons to Cherryvale. No municipal aid was voted along the line, but the people of Cherryvale secured the right-of-way as an inducement to its construction. The road thus built from Cherokee to Cherryvale was narrow gauge;

some two or three years after its completion to Cherryvale it was made into a standard-gauge road.

P. & P. RY.

In December, 1885, the Parsons & Pacific Railway Company was chartered to build a road from Parsons to Coffeyville. C. H. Kimball and Lee Clark were the leading spirits in the movement, and with the aid of eastern capitalists whom they enlisted in the enterprise the road was constructed, in 1886. On September 20, 1886, the first train ran from Mound Valley to Parsons. The company received municipal aid—from Parsons, \$40,000; from Mound Valley township, \$20,000; Canada township, \$20,000, and some from Montgomery county.

K. C. & P. RY.

During the building of the Parsons & Pacific road to Coffeyville, a company, in which the same parties were interested, was formed for the purpose of extending it from Parsons north to Kansas City. In aid of this construction Parsons voted an additional \$20,000, and the municipalities in the counties north, through which the road ran, extended liberal aid. The road was pushed quite rapidly along, and a connection formed with the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf, at Paola.

D. M. & A. R. R.

As early as 1884 an organization was formed of prominent men living along the proposed line of the Denver, Memphis & Atlantic Railroad for the purpose of doing the preliminary work, of securing the right-of-way, municipal aid, and putting the work in such shape that capitalists would be willing to take hold





COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL AT ALTAMONT.  
ERECTED 1893.



of the enterprise and build the road. Most of the members of this company lived at and between Larned and Chetopa. Col. J. B. Cook was the representative from this county in the company. Maj. Joseph Henson and Col. John Doniphan, of St. Joseph, Mo., who had some experience in railroad matters and were men of some capital, were also members of the company. Municipal aid was voted in nearly every township through which the road was to be run. A survey and plat was made, and negotiations commenced with Jay Gould for the construction of the road. The time in which the road was to be built under the conditions of the aid first voted having expired before any work was done, a second election had to be held and the aid voted again. The first plan also was to build a narrow-gauge road. In changing to a broad gauge the technical requirements of the law were not observed, and legislation had to be secured to cure defects, so that it was not until May 22, 1886, that the work began at Chetopa extending the road west from that point. Quite an amount of work had been done, commencing at Larned and extending east, prior to that. Two days later than this the construction train was put on, and by the close of June it was completed as far west as Edna. On July 2, 1886, the first train arrived in Chetopa from Edna, and during the summer Coffeyville was reached. The following aid was extended to secure the construction of this road through this county: A subscription of several hundred dollars by the citizens of Chetopa, and municipal aid; from Hackberry township, \$10,000; from Elm Grove township, \$20,000; and from Howard township, \$20,000.

## NEVADA &amp; MINDEN BRANCH.

During the fall and winter of 1885-86 efforts were made by different citizens of the

county to secure the extension of the road from Nevada, Mo., in a southwesterly direction, but it was finally determined to build it to Chetopa; that place securing for it the right-of-way for about 20 miles and giving it 30 acres of ground in the city for depot and yard purposes. During the spring the work on it was rapidly pushed forward, and on April 6, 1886, the first train over this branch arrived in Chetopa.

## L. L. &amp; G. R. R.

It was at first expected that this line of road would run through the western part of the county its entire width from north to south, but on the organization of Montgomery county it was proposed to change the route, and that county voting liberal aid, the proposed location was changed so that the road only crosses the northwestern corner of this county a short distance and then enters Montgomery.

## ST. L. &amp; S. F. R. R.

To secure connection with St. Louis was among the first things that the citizens of Oswego desired after the town was fairly started. The first effort in this direction of which I have any knowledge was the organization of a local company known as the Oswego, Carthage, Mount Vernon & Springfield Railway Company, for which R. W. Wright and others secured a charter January 27, 1869. On December 9, 1870, the *Oswego Register* published an account of the proposed extension of the Southern Pacific Railway from Springfield to Wichita. About that time delegates from Oswego attended meetings at Carthage and Columbus, at which the project was talked up. On May 21, 1870, on the petition of quite a number of citizens, the board of county commissioners made an order submitting to the

voters of the county a proposition to issue county bonds in the sum of \$150,000 to the Southern Kansas Railway Company on condition of its building a road through the county-seat, and west as near the center of the county as practicable. This left out important points in the county through which the road could not pass, and before the day fixed upon for voting the proposition was withdrawn. On December 20, 1870, a meeting was held at Oswego, at which it was determined to have an east-and-west road. On May 23, 1871, Oswego voted \$75,000 in bonds for the Atlantic & Pacific Railway. On this proposition there were but five votes against the bonds. On June 28, 1871, delegates from Montgomery, Labette and Cherokee counties met at Oswego, and decided to form a local company to aid in procuring the road from Springfield west. On August 13, 1871, a charter having been procured, the directors of the State Line, Oswego & Independence Railway met at Oswego, and organized by electing H. G. Webb, of Labette county, president; Milton Douglas, of Cherokee county, vice-president, A. W. Jay, of Cherokee county, secretary; J. B. Emerson, of Montgomery county, treasurer; and J. J. Browne, of Labette county, attorney. In September, 1872, a survey for the line of road from Minersville to Oswego was made. Another local company, designated the Memphis, Carthage & Northwestern Railway Company, had been formed, and contracts for the construction of the road as far as Oswego were entered into. A large force of hands was put upon the road, and the grading was nearly completed. While the bonds which had been voted could not be legally issued until the road was completed to Oswego, still, to aid its construction, by general consent of the citizens a part of the bonds of Oswego township were sold and the proceeds applied towards paying

for the grading. Without going into details, it is sufficient to say that this local company failed, and for some time nothing further was done toward the extension of the road. On January 4, 1875, Joseph Seligman bought this Memphis, Carthage & Northwestern road, and in February a new company was formed. On March 22, 1875, the Pierce City & Kansas Railway Company was consolidated with the State Line, Oswego & Independence Railway Company, the consolidated companies taking the name of the Missouri & Western Railway Company. Joseph Seligman was president and Edward Livingston secretary and treasurer. Additional bonds were voted by Oswego city and township. To show the interest which Oswego felt in securing this road, it may be mentioned that one evening at a public meeting held in the court-house personal aid to the amount of \$32,745 was promised, all of which was afterwards paid, to secure this enterprise. On June 15, 1876, definite arrangements were made with Seligman for the construction of the road. Hobart & Condon were awarded the contract for preparing the road-bed from Minersville to Oswego. From this time the work progressed satisfactorily, and on Thursday, December 14, 1876, just at dark, the construction train reached the foot of Commercial street, in the city of Oswego. The end of the road remained at Oswego until 1879, when arrangements were made for pushing it westward, and during that season it was completed as far as Wichita. This construction was done in the name of a local company and with Hobart & Condon as chief contractors, but as soon as it was completed it came under the management of the "Frisco" company.

#### STRIKES.

There have been at least three strikes upon the M. K. & T. Ry., which have more or less

affected the people of this county. In July, 1877, the workmen at other points on the road struck; the men engaged in the shops at Parsons did not formally strike, but appointed a committee to confer with the strikers; work was suspended for some time, but matters were finally arranged between the company and its employees so that no strike was made in this county.—In March, 1885, the workmen in the shops at Parsons, as well as the train-men generally, went out on a strike. For a number of days freight traffic was completely blocked, but passenger trains continued to be operated. The differences between the company and its hands were satisfactorily settled, and they all, or nearly all, were taken back into the company's employ. The most serious of all strikes was in March, 1886. It extended all along the line of the road. On March 6th the machine shop whistle at Parsons sounded at 10 o'clock A. M., and the entire force of railroad employes ceased work and marched out. An effort was made by the governors of Kansas and Missouri to effect a settlement of the matters of difference between the company and its hands, but were unsuccessful. New men were employed by the company, but were not allowed to work, the old employees being of sufficient force to prevent their performing their duties. The strikers placed a guard around the company's property to prevent its being injured, but would not allow anyone to assist in moving trains. Adjutant General Campbell came down from Topeka and conferred with the strikers, but could not prevail upon them to come to any terms. Toward the last of March many of the strikers became more desperate and defiant than they had been at first. Not only was force used to prevent freight trains from running

and to "kill" the engines on all trains that attempted to pull out, but some went so far as to interfere with passenger travel. The track just north of Bachelor creek bridge was loosened, and the north-bound passenger train was ditched. Had the train been going south instead of north it would have been plunged into the creek and the result would necessarily have been fatal to many persons. Attempts were also made to burn some of the bridges. The citizens of Parsons organized for the purpose of assisting the company in running its trains, but the striking force was so strong that they were not able to accomplish their object. On the evening of April 2d seven car-loads of the State militia came into Parsons over the Neosho division, and about the same time several more car-loads over the Sedalia division, and soon thereafter several more car-loads over the Gulf road. The arrival of the soldiers was a complete surprise to the strikers, as they had not learned that the militia had been called out. The soldiers at once took control of the entire railroad property and prevented anyone from entering the premises, placed those who had been employed by the company in charge, and at once trains commenced to move. The strike was over. The soldiers remained several days, until everything was quiet and the citizens' organization felt itself strong enough to preserve the peace. The leaders among the strikers were arrested on a criminal charge, and a number of them were tried and convicted. They were punished by fine and imprisonment in the county jail. The great body of those who participated in the strike permanently lost their places in the railroad employ, and many of them were practically financially ruined.

## POLITICAL

---

I give the following letter as bearing upon the organization of political parties in the county :

"LAKE CITY, COL., April 5, 1892.

"FRIEND CASE: I am not much at writing history, and can only give you some of the points where I was interested and so remember them. You are right about the organization of the party at Trotter's ford and Jacksonville. It was there agreed to make no opposition to the organization of the southern part into an independent county. It was also agreed that they were, to nominate all the candidates for Neosho county from the northern part, and that we from the south part should abstain from voting for or against them, and should organize on our own account, and trust to the Legislature to legalize our action. According to that agreement, a mass meeting of the Republicans was called soon after, and met in the open air outside of Carr & Bridgman's store, in the east part of what is now Oswego. Dr. J. F. Newlon was elected as its chairman, and the meeting then proceeded to nominate candidates for representative and for county officers. I was nominated for representative, Ben. Rice for sheriff, Sam. Collins, John Rice, and I think Noris Harrer, for county commissioners; A. T. Dickerman for county clerk, I think. You can verify these names from the records. After my admission to the Legis-

lature the programme was carried out. Although our action was irregular, I found all the members and State officers willing to render any assistance in their power. A resolution was at once introduced legalizing my election, and I was admitted to my seat. I then went to Governor Crawford with our petition for appointment of temporary county officers, and had those elected in the fall appointed.

"The Democratic party in 1866 nominated W. C. Watkins for representative.

"Very truly yours, C. H. BENT."

### GREENBACK ORGANIZATIONS.

The introduction of greenbacks into the politics of this county (not as an element of bribery, but as an organized body of voters) dates from 1877, when the first ticket was put into the field by the Greenback party. But of course there was some work done before that time in the way of organizing clubs and disseminating the principles of the party. I am not able to say definitely when and where the first organization was effected. The first mention which I have found of this organization is a card published in the *Advance* of September 16, 1875, signed by J. W. Caldwell, calling a meeting of those who were favorable to organizing a greenback club, to be held at Drake's Hall, Chetopa, September 18, 1875. I have no information as to whether or not the or-



ganization was effected, but probably it was not, or if so it did not live long. Sometime in 1877 a club was organized at the Slocum school-house, District No. 75, in Mound Valley township. On May 18, 1878, a club was organized at the Valley school-house, District No. 72, in Elm Grove township. During this spring a number of clubs were organized and a more perfect county organization was effected in a convention held at Parsons in April. After 1883 there was little life manifested by this party under its organization as then existing.

#### THE FARMERS' AND LABORERS' UNION

Was organized at Mound Valley in the latter part of 1885. It was conducted with open doors as a reform club till June 9, 1886, when a secret work was adopted and a secret organization perfected by the following charter members: George Campbell, Dr. E. Lemon, J. K. Russell, I. M. Evans, W. N. McCoid, William Clark, Joseph Riff, J. White, N. Clark, B. F. Miller, B. F. Ralls, and E. H. Barnhart. Under the leadership of Mr. Campbell a number of lodges were instituted in this and adjoining counties, and the organization was extended to other States. In 1886 Mr. Campbell established and during 1887 conducted a paper called *United Labor*, for the purpose of giving publicity and strength to the new organization. Whatever may have been the good effects of this effort on others I do not know, but it proved a very disastrous undertaking financially to Mr. Campbell. After spending several thousand dollars in the attempt to put it on a paying basis, the publication of this official organ ceased, after being conducted about a year. In 1889 this organization was merged

in that of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union. In the meantime out of this and other labor organizations there had sprung up a new political party which took the name of the Union Labor party, which was organized at Cincinnati, February 22, 1887. John W. Breidenthal, being one of the delegates from Kansas, was made chairman of the State committee. He at once took active steps toward organizing the party in this county. The first club in the county was organized at Edna, in March. This was soon followed by others. A mass convention was called, to meet at Altamont, August 5, 1887. This meeting was largely attended. George E. Stone, of Howard township, was made chairman. To prevent being imposed upon a pledge was required of all parties participating in its proceedings to support the Union Labor ticket: 137 signed this pledge. The party was then organized, and Wm. Cook was made chairman of the central committee. To Mr. Breidenthal is, in a large measure, due the victory which the party achieved that fall, for he was instrumental in bringing a number of their best speakers into the county, among whom were Gen. J. B. Weaver, H. A. Streeter, Jesse Harper, Moses Hull, and Capt. Geo. W. Bell. With the exception of commissioner, this party elected the entire county ticket that fall.

#### FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

This organization so far as it relates to this county dates from January, 1889, when Mount Zion Sub-Alliance was organized, in Osage township. This was followed by Pleasant Hill, in the same month, and on February 12th Globe Alliance was organized, in Mound Valley township. These organizations were formed by C. McIlvain. According to one report An-

gola Alliance was organized before either of those above named. The County Alliance was formed at Altamont, on May 18, 1889. It has had the following officers: Presidents—G. J. Coleman, E. A. Richcreek, Daniel Pfaff, Ben Johnson. Secretaries—C. L. Albin, Walter Phillips, Harry Mills, George Campbell. Out of this, and the organizations which preceded it, in 1890 sprang the People's party.

## POLITICAL CONVENTIONS.

### REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTIONS.

The Republican party in this county was organized in 1866. The following are the steps that were taken to secure such organization, and to hold the first convention.

The fore part of August, 1866, a number of Republicans were assembled at the store of Roe & Dennison, at the Erie postoffice, about a mile north of the present site of Erie. Political matters were talked over, and it was decided to call a convention at Trotter's ford, to organize the Republican party. Afterwards, by request of those residing in the southern part of the county (in what is now Labette county), the place of the meeting was changed from Trotter's ford to Jacksonville. Delegates having been selected from all parts of the county in such way as each locality chose, they met in convention in a grove some two or three hundred yards north and about the same distance west of what is now the southeast corner of Neosho county, on Saturday, September 8, 1866. A Mr. Nugent (?) was chairman, and J. A. Wells, secretary. At the request of the delegates from the southern part of the county, the nomination for the county officers were all made from those residing in the north half, with the agreement on their part that at the next session of the Legislature the county should be divided. On motion of

G. W. Kingsbury, it was voted that when the division was made the southern part should be called (as they then wrote the word) La Bet county. J. S. Waters was recognized as the chairman of the delegation from the southern half of the county.

Following we give a summary of various political conventions which have been held in Labette county, from 1866 to 1900, inclusive:

In October, 1866, a Republican convention was called for the proposed new county of "La Bet" (alluded to above). It met in the open air near Carr & Bridgman's store, Oswego; J. F. Newlon, chairman, A. T. Dickerman, secretary. The following ticket was nominated: County clerk, A. T. Dickerman; sheriff, Benjamin A. Rice; clerk district court, Elza Craft; register of deeds, George Bent; county assessor, Jabez Zink; probate judge, David C. Lowe; county treasurer, C. C. Clover; superintendent public instruction, J. F. Newlon; coroner, G. W. Kingsbury; representative, Charles H. Bent; commissioners, S. W. Collins, C. H. Talbot, and Bergen Van Ness.

J. S. Waters, chairman central committee.

March, 1867, open air, near Carr & Bridgman's store, Oswego; J. F. Newlon, chairman, A. T. Dickerman, secretary. County clerk, A. T. Dickerman; county treasurer, C. C. Clover; sheriff, Benjamin A. Rice; county assessor, Francis Wall; clerk district court, R. S. Cornish; probate judge, Bergen Van Ness; register of deeds, Elza Craft; superintendent public instruction, John F. Newlon; coroner, George W. Kingsbury; surveyor, Z. Harris; commissioners, Nathan Ames, William Shay, and David C. Lowe.

September 1, 1867, Benj. A. Rice, chairman. Representative Eighty-fifth district, I. S. Waters; sheriff, John N. Watson; coroner, G. W. Kingsbury; county clerk, C. E. Simons;

county attorney, W. J. Parkinson; county treasurer, Bergen Van Ness; probate judge David C. Lowe; commissioners, Isaac Butterworth, William Logan, J. F. Molesworth; superintendent public instruction, Enos Reed; clerk district court, R. S. Cornish; county surveyor, S. R. Southwick; register, Charles C. Beggs; county assessor, J. R. Morrison.

C. H. Bent, chairman central committee, J. S. Waters, secretary.

September, 1868, Oswego.\* Representative Eighty-fifth district, Dr. D. D. McGrath; probate judge, H. M. Minor; superintendent public instruction, R. J. Elliott; county attorney, Walter P. Bishop; county clerk, Charles C. Beggs; clerk district court, Robert Steel; county commissioner first district, Elisha Hammer.

E. R. Trask, chairman central committee, W. H. Carpenter, secretary.

September 17, 1869, court-house, Oswego. Probate judge, W. H. Witlock; treasurer, Harvey I. Cox; sheriff, J. C. Wilson; county attorney, J. S. Waters; county clerk, L. C. Howard; register, P. H. Cherry; surveyor, E. G. Davidson; coroner, James Logan; commissioners, first district, Gilbert Martin, second, J. S. Anderson, third, James H. Beggs.

E. Hammer, chairman central committee, E. D. Graybill, secretary.

September 17, 1870, court-house, Oswego; J. W. Horner, chairman, C. H. Lewis, secretary. Representative Eighty-fifth district, J. M. Mahr, on third ballot over I. W. Patrick and C. H. Bent; probate judge, B. W. Perkins on third ballot over J. Demorst and Davis Vulgamore; county attorney, J. S. Waters, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, J.

W. Horner on first ballot over R. J. Elliott and D. C. Constant; clerk district court, D. S. Morrison on first ballot over Robert Steel and E. D. Graybill; surveyor, G. T. Walton by acclamation, provided Davidson does not get back; commissioner first district, Samuel Balentine on first ballot over David Stanfield.

T. E. Clark, chairman central committee, E. D. Graybill, secretary.

October 7, 1871, at court-house, Oswego; J. W. Horner, chairman, E. E. Hastings, secretary. Sheriff, L. S. Crum on first ballot over J. C. Wilson; register, I. W. Patrick on second ballot over J. G. Steel, R. E. Holloway, Levi Seabridge, and Thomas Irish; county clerk, L. C. Howard on first ballot over R. J. Elliott, E. D. Graybill, and George T. Walton; treasurer, C. F. Smith on first ballot over N. Sanford; coroner, J. F. Newlon on first ballot; surveyor, S. R. Southwick, by acclamation; commissioners, first district, Henry Stewart; second, J. H. Hibbits; third, W. H. Carpenter.

J. W. Horner, chairman central committee, T. C. Cory, secretary. August 7, 1872, Horner resigned as chairman of the central committee, and J. S. Waters was elected in his place, and F. B. McGill, secretary.

October 5, 1872, at court-house, Oswego; E. B. Stevens, chairman, I. O. Pickering, secretary. Senator Fifteenth district, J. H. Crichton, on third ballot over J. S. Waters and J. J. Woods; probate judge, B. W. Perkins, by acclamation; county attorney, E. C. Ward on second ballot, over David Kelso, W. B. Glasse, T. L. Darlow; clerk district court, R. J. Elliott, on third ballot, over Wm. Houck, John Hamblin, D. S. Morrison; coroner, William Pinkerton, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Mary A. Higby, on first ballot, over

\* In all cases where possible, the names of Chairmen and Secretaries are given, but in some instances no record of these could be found.

W. A. Starr, E. H. Taylor, Keirsey Cook; commissioner, second district, J. B. Cook, who declined nomination, and George Farland was substituted by central committee.

F. B. McGill, chairman central committee, S. O. Fletcher, secretary.

October 11, 1873, at court-house, Oswego; Josephus Moore, chairman, H. L. Partridge, secretary. Probate judge, S. L. Coulter; treasurer, C. F. Smith; sheriff, S. O. Fletcher, on second ballot, over J. N. Watson; county clerk, J. B. Cook, on first ballot, over L. C. Howard and Saml. Collins; register, I. W. Patrick, by acclamation; surveyor, Samuel F. Terrill, by acclamation; coroner, D. B. Crouse, by acclamation; commissioners, first district, John Nelson; second, P. B. Clark; third, W. A. Starr. Decided to make no nomination for representative of the Forty-third district; Forty-fourth district, W. H. Mapes.

R. J. Elliott, chairman central committee, Willard Davis, secretary.

September 26, 1874, at court-house, Oswego; E. B. Stevens, chairman, L. M. Bedell, secretary. Senator Fifteenth district, J. H. Crichton, on second ballot, over T. C. Cory, D. Kelso, and W. H. Mapes; clerk district court, H. C. Cook, on second ballot, over R. J. Elliott, E. B. Newton, and Wm. Houck; superintendent public instruction, Mary A. Higby, on first ballot, over J. G. Coleman and Allen C. Baker; county attorney, Willard Davis, by acclamation; coroner, J. G. Coleman, by acclamation.

C. H. Bent, chairman central committee, V. J. Knapp, secretary.

October 2, 1875, court-house, Oswego; J. S. Waters, chairman, G. W. Hawk, secretary. Treasurer, George M. Caldwell, by acclamation; sheriff, S. B. Abbott, on first ballot, over

J. H. Golden and J. A. Mapes; county clerk, S. T. Herman, by acclamation; register, I. W. Patrick, by acclamation; coroner, D. B. Crouse, by acclamation; surveyor, S. R. Southwick, on second ballot, over George Thornton and Charles McClung; commissioners, first district, J. J. Woods; second, W. M. Mabery; third, W. A. Starr.

J. M. Cavaness, chairman central committee, S. O. Fletcher, secretary.

September 16, 1876, court-house, Oswego; Major H. W. Martin, chairman, George Thornton, secretary. Senator Fifteenth district, J. H. Crichton, on seventh ballot, over M. W. Reynolds, J. G. Coleman, H. G. Webb, and W. B. Glasse; probate judge, S. L. Coulter, by acclamation; clerk district court, H. C. Cook, by acclamation; county attorney, J. S. Waters, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Mary A. Higby, on first ballot, over L. J. Vandingham, Kiersey Cook, and A. C. Baker.

W. B. Glasse, chairman central committee, George Thornton, secretary.

September 22, 1877, court-house, Oswego; Major H. W. Martin, chairman, C. A. Wilkin, secretary. Treasurer, G. M. Caldwell, by acclamation; register, I. W. Patrick, on first ballot, over W. A. Starr; county clerk, T. A. Fellows, by acclamation; sheriff, D. M. Bender, on fourth ballot, over S. B. Abbott, J. W. H. Golden, and George Campbell; surveyor, George Thornton; coroner, W. R. Moore; commissioners, first district, H. S. Coly; second, W. J. Herrod; third, J. B. Swartz.

F. B. McGill, chairman central committee, George Thornton, secretary.

September 14, 1878, court-house, Oswego; D. Kelso, chairman, L. M. Bedell, secretary. Clerk district court, H. C. Cook; county at-

torney, J. S. Waters; superintendent public instruction, Allen C. Baker; commissioner first district, T. E. Clark.

C. H. Kimball, chairman central committee, D. M. Bender, secretary.

April 24, 1879, opera house, Oswego; R. W. Wright, chairman, L. M. Bedell, secretary. Treasurer, George Thornton, on first ballot, over M. M. Kingsbury; sheriff, D. M. Bender, on first ballot, over J. W. H. Golden, D. H. David, and C. B. Woodford; register, I. W. Patrick, on first ballot, over J. M. Morgan, E. B. Baldwin, and George Foland; county clerk, W. H. Kiersey, on first ballot, over A. T. Dickerman, and F. G. Hunt; surveyor, J. M. Wells, by acclamation; coroner, W. W. English, on first ballot, over Dr. N. M. Miller; commissioner second district, A. N. Russell, on second ballot, over George Hildreth, J. W. Mason, D. F. Noblett, Michael Noel, and A. W. Darling.

C. H. Kimball, chairman central committee, R. W. Wright, secretary.

September 25, 1880, opera house, Oswego; J. S. Waters, chairman, F. W. Felt and A. H. Tyler, secretaries. Senator Fifteenth district, W. B. Glasse, on third ballot, over C. H. Kimball, M. W. Reynolds, and H. W. Martin; probate judge, Nelson Case, on first ballot, over A. H. Ayres, Wm. Starr, and H. W. Martin; county attorney, L. C. True, on first ballot, over J. D. Conderman and J. E. Bryan; clerk district court, H. C. Cook, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, M. Chidester, on second ballot, over J. F. Hill, Nathan Williams, and Allen C. Baker; commissioner third district, J. J. Henderson.

J. S. Waters, chairman central committee, J. E. Bryan, secretary.

September 24, 1881, Oswego; J. S. Waters, chairman, E. W. Bedell, secretary. Treasurer,

George M. Caldwell, on first ballot, over George Thornton and G. S. McDole; register, A. M. Fellows, on fifth ballot, over I. W. Patrick, Marshall Johnson, Jesse M. Morgan, and James Paxton; sheriff, D. M. Bender, on second ballot, over J. W. Wilson, S. B. Abbott, D. H. David, J. W. H. Golden, and C. E. Simons; county clerk, F. W. Felt on second ballot over W. A. Starr and W. H. Kiersey; surveyor, B. R. Cunningham by acclamation; coroner, Lewis Peterson on first ballot over S. M. Gregory.

J. S. Waters, chairman central committee, J. H. Morrison, secretary.

September 29, 1882, Oswego; Thomas O'Hare, chairman, L. M. Bedell, secretary. County attorney, L. C. True on first ballot over T. C. Cory and J. E. Bryan; probate judge, Nelson Case, by acclamation; clerk district court, H. C. Cook, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Anna C. Baker on third ballot over O. M. McPherson, M. Chidester, B. R. Cunningham, and W. F. Schoch; coroner, H. C. Richardson, by acclamation; commissioner second district, C. M. Keeler on first ballot over A. N. Russell and A. T. Dickerman.

T. J. Calvin, chairman central committee, L. M. Bedell, secretary.

October 20, 1883, Oswego; J. E. Bryan, chairman, O. M. McPherson, secretary, Treasurer, C. W. Littleton on first ballot over M. L. Trotter; register, Asa Smith on first ballot over E. B. Baldwin and N. M. Miller; county clerk, F. W. Felt, by acclamation; sheriff, J. T. Lampson on second ballot over Andrew Kaho, C. E. Simons, C. B. Woodford, and W. H. Webb; surveyor, B. R. Cunningham by acclamation; coroner, E. W. Dorsey by acclamation; commissioner third district, J. E. Brooks, by acclamation.

J. H. Morrison, chairman central committee, Jess Brockway, secretary.

September 6, 1884, Oswego; Thomas O'Hare, chairman, S. W. Kniffin, secretary. Senator Ninth district, C. H. Kimball on first ballot over J. B. Swartz and J. E. Bryan; county attorney J. D. Conderman on third ballot over W. B. Glasse and J. H. Morrison; clerk district court, E. B. Baldwin on first ballot over W. W. Cook; probate judge, S. L. Coulter on first ballot over Isaac Hill; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Anna C. Baker, by acclamation; commissioner first district, D. A. Jones on second ballot over J. F. Hill, Louis Von Trebra, and J. C. McKnight; commissioner second district, to fill vacancy, J. M. Mason on third ballot over Peter Shufelt, J. N. Tibbets, M. Noe, and William Slaughter.

T. C. Cory, chairman central committee, S. O. Fletcher, secretary.

October 17, 1885, opera house, Oswego; J. B. Swartz, chairman, S. T. Herman, secretary. Treasurer C. W. Littleton, by acclamation; register, Asa Smith, by acclamation; sheriff, C. B. Woodford on first ballot over I. N. Cornelius, J. T. Lampson, W. H. Sharp, and Joseph Craft; county clerk, W. W. Cook on second ballot over O. E. Woods and W. J. Quick; surveyor, W. W. Dentler on first ballot over J. M. Hart; coroner, E. W. Dorsey, by acclamation.

H. H. Lusk, chairman central committee, A. H. Tyler, secretary.

On October 10, 1885, a convention was held at Edna, at which James Wilmoth was nominated for commissioner of second district.

October 9, 1886, opera house, Oswego; J. W. Marley, chairman, J. W. Weltner and L. M. Bedell, secretaries. County attorney, T. C. Cory on first ballot over J. D. Conderman and

Jess Brockway; probate judge, T. J. Calvin on first ballot over Isaac Hill and F. H. Atchinson; clerk district court, E. B. Baldwin on first ballot over W. E. Crawford; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Anna Hickenbottom on second ballot over Mrs. Anna C. Baker, C. C. Robbins, L. Tomlin, J. W. Iden, and Mrs. Susan C. Keefe; commissioner third district, J. E. Brooks.

J. W. Marley, chairman central committee, M. E. Williams, secretary.

August 27, 1887, Oswego; S. T. Herman, chairman, Abe Steinbarger and H. H. Lusk, secretaries. Treasurer, W. F. Thorne on first ballot over B. R. Van Meter and William Slaughter; register, J. A. Flora on fifth ballot over O. S. Kliser, Ella Wood, Wilf. Cooper, and J. A. Lough; sheriff, J. T. Lampson on seventh ballot over C. B. Woodford, D. M. Bender, I. N. Cornelius, and A. M. Newman; county clerk, Wylie W. Cook, by acclamation; surveyor, E. P. Bayless, by acclamation; coroner, J. T. Finley on first ballot over Rep Smith; commissioner first district, D. A. Jones.

S. T. Herman, chairman central committee, Joseph Craft, secretary.

September 1, 1888, Oswego; J. B. Swartz, chairman, W. F. Thrall, secretary. Senator Tenth district, C. H. Kimball, by acclamation; county attorney, J. H. Morrison on fourth ballot over A. A. Osgood, F. H. Atchinson; M. E. Williams, and J. D. Conderman; probate judge, I. J. Calvin, by acclamation; clerk district court, Colin Hodge on fourth ballot over J. S. Hileman, Ira F. Adams, H. H. Graue, W. H. Hunter, and George Hildreth; superintendent public instruction, Agnes Baty on third ballot over A. D. Martin and S. L. Fogleman.

L. S. Crum, chairman central committee, W. W. Cook, secretary.

August 31, 1889, Parsons; J. B. Swartz,



chairman, Thomas O'Hare and Evelyn B. Baldwin, secretaries. Treasurer, William Slaughter, by acclamation; register, J. A. Flora on third ballot over B. R. Van Meter and J. S. Odell; sheriff, W. H. Sharp on fifth ballot over J. E. Brooks, S. B. Shaffer, J. B. Pickering, A. J. Kirby, and W. J. Webb; county clerk, George Tilton; surveyor, J. W. Bogge; coroner, Thomas J. Finley; commissioner, J. W. Scott on first ballot over C. J. Darling.

W. W. McEwen, chairman central committee, J. L. McGinness secretary.

August 23, 1890, Oswego; J. B. Cook, chairman, A. H. Tyler, secretary. County attorney, W. F. Schoch, by acclamation; probate judge, R. M. Hart, by acclamation; clerk district court, Colin Hodge, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Fannie Smith on first ballot over Samuel Wade; commissioner first district, B. D. Roberts.

L. S. Crum, chairman central committee, W. W. Cook, secretary.

September 5, 1891, Mound Valley; M. Byrne, chairman, W. W. Cook, secretary. Treasurer, William Slaughter; county clerk, Geo. W. Tilton; register, J. C. Richcreek on third ballot over J. W. Fee, J. A. Flora and L. G. Bigwood; sheriff, Andrew Kaho on third ballot over W. H. Sharp, I. N. Cissna, A. W. Newman, D. M. Bender, J. E. Brooks, and J. W. Bennett; coroner, T. J. Finley on first ballot over Jacob Crump, M. S. Clayton; surveyor, M. C. Gaffey on first ballot over J. W. Bogge.

W. F. Schoch, chairman central committee, Colin Hodge, secretary.

August 16, 1892, Parsons; W. G. Hoover, chairman, W. K. Hayes and C. S. Newlon, secretaries. Senator, W. W. McEwen, by ac-

clamation; county attorney, A. D. Neals on third ballot over M. Byrne, J. W. Iden, and D. H. Wilson; probate judge, H. H. Graue was nominated on first ballot over A. T. Dickerman and W. F. Grierson, but as he had not been a candidate for that office he declined to accept the nomination, and W. F. Grierson was nominated on second ballot over A. T. Dickerman; clerk district court, E. C. Clark on first ballot over H. H. Graue; superintendent public instruction, A. D. Martin, by acclamation; commissioner third district, J. W. Scott, by acclamation.

Dr. C. Rockhold, chairman central committee, U. S. Harr, secretary.

August 28, 1893, Oswego; R. W. Wright, chairman, H. C. Ford, secretary. Treasurer, John R. Monroe over J. M. Thompson; county clerk, J. F. Thompson, by acclamation; register of deeds, H. H. Graue, over Wallace W. Bradbury; sheriff, John W. Bennett over Joseph Craft and J. W. Scott; surveyor, E. P. Bayless, by acclamation; coroner, T. J. Finley, by acclamation; commissioner first district, D. U. Watson, by acclamation. As authorized by the convention, at a later date the central committee nominated the following high school trustees: Nelson Case, J. M. Birt, W. G. Hoover, I. S. Boyer, Dr. C. S. Newlon and J. W. Fee.

Nelson Case, chairman central committee, W. F. Schoch, secretary.

July 14, 1894, Oswego; J. W. Scott, chairman, J. D. Lusk, secretary. Probate judge, J. C. Richcreek over J. H. Young and W. S. Stokebake; clerk district court, E. C. Clark, by acclamation; county attorney, A. B. Switzer, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Ida C. Martin over I. S. Boyer, E. C. McKinley and Clay D. Herod; commis-

sioner second district, L. C. Freeman over James N. Tibbets; high school trustees, J. M. Birt and W. G. Hoover, by acclamation.

C. S. Newlon, chairman central committee, Charles Harrington, secretary.

August 31, 1895, Chetopa; Dr. F. E. Hamilton, chairman, L. M. Bedell, secretary. Treasurer, E. W. Minturn over W. C. Dicus; county clerk, J. F. Thompson over J. W. Weaver; sheriff, John W. Bennett, by acclamation; register of deeds, H. H. Graue, by acclamation; surveyor, E. P. Bayless over J. W. Boggess; coroner, J. W. French over T. J. Finley, George W. Parks and Vance Campbell; high school trustees, Nelson Case and E. E. Laughlin, by acclamation.

E. C. Clark, chairman central committee, O. Gossard, secretary.

July 29, 1896, Parsons; James W. Scott chairman, W. H. Martin, secretary. Senator, E. C. Clark over Dr. W. W. McEwen; probate judge, J. C. Richcreek, by acclamation; county attorney, E. L. Burton over J. W. Iden, J. D. Conderman, Claude E. Kennedy and A. H. Tyler; clerk district court, W. C. Dicus over Colin Hodge, W. F. Cox and H. H. Beard; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Ida C. Martin, by acclamation; commissioner first district, D. U. Watson, by acclamation; high school trustees, I. S. Boyer and R. A. Davis, by acclamation.

H. H. Graue, chairman central committee, O. Gossard, secretary.

September 9, 1897, Oswego; R. W. Wright, chairman, A. H. Tyler, secretary. Treasurer, E. W. Minturn, by acclamation; county clerk, Ivy Prescott over Robert Moshier, W. C. Berry, B. F. Briggs, John M. Chansler and T. H. Lough; sheriff, David Bonebrake over D. A. Jones, W. C. Weaver and F. M. Webb; register of deeds, Arch D. Swan-

wick over Wallace W. Bradbury; surveyor, J. W. Boggess over E. P. Bayless; coroner, J. W. French, by acclamation; commissioner second district, Lewis Woodyard; high school trustees, H. H. Long and I. S. Boyer, by acclamation.

E. C. Clark, chairman central committee, E. E. Ford, secretary.

June 2, 1898, Oswego; E. L. Burton, chairman, E. E. Ford, secretary. Probate judge, Lewis W. Crain over D. M. Stice, W. F. Grierson, Alvah Shick, R. D. Talbot and F. M. Webb; county attorney, E. C. Clark over J. D. Conderman and A. H. Tyler; clerk district court, T. A. Ryan, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Miss Annie S. Arnold over Leslie Piatt and L. Lightfoot; coroner (to fill vacancy), J. W. French, by acclamation; commissioner third district, R. D. Talbot; high school trustees, C. H. Williams and Samuel Bowman, by acclamation.

C. S. Newlon, chairman central committee, Thomas J. Lough, secretary.

September 7, 1899, Oswego; Dr. C. Rockhold, chairman, S. T. Herman, secretary. Treasurer, E. D. Bates, by acclamation; county clerk, William Chapman by acclamation; sheriff, John E. Brooks over Frank Dienst; register of deeds, Arch D. Swanwick, by acclamation; surveyor, E. P. Bayless over J. W. Boggess; coroner, Philip Bassett, by acclamation; commissioner first district, A. M. Strode, by acclamation; high school trustees, A. B. Roller and J. H. Woodull, by acclamation.

W. J. Lough, chairman central committee, Harry W. Starnes, secretary.

July 19, 1900, Oswego; Dr. P. W. Barbe, chairman, Harry W. Starnes, secretary. Senator, A. A. Osgood over W. J. Lough; probate judge, Lewis W. Crain, by acclamation; county attorney, T. J. Flannelly over Harry G. Davis; clerk district court, James W. Weaver,

by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Miss Annie S. Arnold, by acclamation; commissioner second district (at a convention held at a later date), Oscar Potter; high school trustees, Dr. J. B. Henderson and W. Sturges, by acclamation.

Arch D. Swanwick, chairman central committee, George Meek, secretary.

#### REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATIVE CONVENTIONS.

*Forty-third District.*—October 7, 1871, Oswego; W. H. Carpenter, chairman, H. L. Partridge, secretary. Joseph J. Woods nominated on third ballot over W. H. Carpenter and Josephus Moore.—October 12, 1872, Parsons; J. J. Woods, chairman, S. O. Fletcher, secretary. W. W. Harper on first ballot over J. H. Tibbets.—October 11, 1873, Oswego; W. W. Harper.—1874, Parsons; J. J. Woods. October 9, 1875, Parsons; A. North, chairman, R. E. Holloway, secretary. M. W. Reynolds, by acclamation.

*Forty-fourth District.*—October 7, 1871, Oswego. D. C. Constant on first ballot over Alexander Bishop.—October 5, 1872, Oswego; B. W. Perkins, chairman, Sylvester Cook, secretary. W. H. Mapes, by acclamation.—October 11, 1873, Oswego; W. H. Mapes.—September 26, 1874, Chetopa; W. P. Bishop, chairman, N. Sanford, secretary. J. C. McKnight on first ballot over R. W. Wright and S. M. Canaday.—October 9, 1875, Chetopa; J. C. Watson, chairman, E. W. Bedell, secretary. Owen Wimmer on third ballot over R. W. Wright, C. H. Bent, and E. Johnson.

*Forty-fourth District.*—October 7, 1876, Parsons; S. Mayginnis, chairman, W. L. Winter, secretary. M. W. Reynolds on first ballot over W. A. Starr.—September 28, 1878, Parsons; A. H. Ayres, chairman, Wm. Hors-

fall, secretary. M. W. Reynolds on first ballot over Frank Webb.—September 27, 1880, J. B. Swartz on first ballot.

*Forty-fifth District.*—September 9, 1876, Oswego; W. H. Mapes, chairman, W. B. Glasse, secretary. F. A. Bettis on first ballot over James Paxton and R. W. Wright.—September 4, 1878, Oswego; E. D. Keirse, chairman, S. W. Canaday, secretary. F. A. Bettis on thirtieth ballot over F. B. McGill, H. W. Barnes, J. L. Williams and others.—September 25, 1880, Oswego. J. S. Waters on fourth ballot over R. W. Wright and J. L. Williams.

*Forty-sixth District.*—September 9, 1876, Chetopa; G. W. Jenkins, chairman, S. T. Herman, secretary. J. H. Hibbits on first ballot over H. W. Martin and Owen Wimmer.—September 21, 1878, Chetopa; Tim Kay, chairman, George H. Bates, secretary. T. J. Calvin on sixtieth ballot over H. W. Martin, Alex. Duncan, and J. H. Crichton.—September 22, 1880; L. M. Bedell, chairman, J. F. Hill, secretary. T. J. Calvin, by acclamation.

*Thirty-third District.*—September 9, 1882, Parsons; S. Mayginnis, chairman, Lee Clark, secretary. W. L. Simons nominated on first ballot (informal), but declined; on second ballot J. W. Fee nominated over J. B. Swartz and S. L. Obenchains.—September 23, 1884, Parsons. David Kelso on first ballot.

*Thirty-fourth District.*—September 29, 1882, Oswego; E. D. Keirse, chairman, Andrew Kaho, secretary. J. S. Waters on first ballot over H. C. Richardson.—September 6, 1884, Oswego; James Paxson, chairman, Wm. Houck, secretary. H. C. Cook, by acclamation.

*Thirty-fifth District.*—September 28, 1882, Chetopa; Wesley Faurot, chairman, E. W. Bedell, secretary. J. H. Crichton on first ballot.—September 22, 1884, Chetopa; R. A. Bart-

lett, chairman, Joe R. Hill, secretary. J. B. Cook, by acclamation.

*Twenty-eighth District.*—September 25, 1886, Parsons. F. R. Morton.—September 2, 1888, Parsons; J. H. Beatty, chairman, V. J. Knapp, secretary. W. W. Cranston nominated on first ballot.—August 30, 1890, Parsons; W. H. Thorne, chairman, M. Byrne, secretary. A. H. Tyler on second ballot over J. M. Birt and C. J. Darling.—October 4, 1890, a second convention was held to act on the matter of Mr. Tyler's withdrawal, he having signified to the central committee his willingness to withdraw. His action was accepted, and J. M. Birt was nominated in his place.

*Twenty-ninth District.*—October 9, 1886, Oswego; J. W. Marley, chairman, M. E. Williams, secretary. J. H. Morrison on first ballot over H. C. Cook.—September 13, 1888, Altamont; W. F. Schoch, chairman, M. E. Williams, secretary. H. S. Coley on first ballot over J. J. Miles.—September 13, 1890, Altamont; H. M. Debolt, chairman. W. K. Orr, secretary. J. H. Morrison, by acclamation.

*Thirtieth District.*—October 16, 1886, Chetopa; J. C. McKnight, chairman, Bayard T. Burnes, secretary. J. J. Slaughter, on second ballot, over J. S. Hileman, B. D. Roberts, Colin Hodge, and Isaac Butterworth.—October 2, 1888, Edna; J. E. Snevely, chairman, Presley McKnight, secretary. J. S. Hileman, by acclamation.—September 6, 1890, Edna; E. A. Herrod, chairman, M. N. Baldwin, secretary. W. J. Raymond, by acclamation.

*Twenty-sixth District.*—September 3, 1892, Parsons; J. W. Fee, chairman, J. D. Lusk, secretary. D. M. Bender, on first ballot, over Arch Wade.—August 25, 1894, Parsons; F. M. Webb, chairman, J. D. Lusk, secretary. D. M. Bender, by acclamation.—July 29, 1896, Parsons; George K. Ratliff, chair-

man, J. D. Lusk, secretary. D. M. Bender, by acclamation.

*Twenty-seventh District.*—September 20, 1892, Chetopa; T. J. Calvin, chairman, Dr. C. S. Newlon, secretary. W. G. Hoover, by acclamation.—August 4, 1894, Oswego; L. M. Bedell, chairman, G. A. Nicholetts, secretary. W. J. Lough, over W. F. Schoch.—July 28, 1896, Chetopa; J. F. Von Trebra, chairman, G. W. Tilton, secretary. W. J. Lough, by acclamation.—June 4, 1898, Parsons; J. W. Iden, chairman, J. D. Lusk, secretary. Arthur Cranston, over Charles F. Turner.—September 27, 1900, Parsons; M. L. Morgan, chairman, H. C. Sourbeer, secretary. J. B. McDonald, over Fred H. Brown and J. M. Gregory.

*Twenty-eighth district.*—June 2, 1898, Oswego; J. A. Cox, chairman, Lee McGill, secretary. T. J. Flannelly, by acclamation.—July 19, 1900, Oswego; Walter Von Trebra, chairman, Lee McGill, secretary. J. W. Marley, by acclamation.

#### DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CONVENTIONS.

In October, 1866, an informal Democratic caucus was held at a spring on Short's claim, in section 22, Montana township. D. M. Clover was chairman, and M. A. Victor, secretary. It was attended quite generally by the Democrats in the community, and the sentiment was to vote a Democratic ticket. In view of this they nominated a full county ticket. I have obtained only partial information respecting it. A part of the ticket was as follows: W. C. Watkins, for representative, H. C. Bridgman for county clerk, Nelson Carr for county treasurer, Samuel Dunham for superintendent public instruction.

October, 1867, Democratic caucus in Bun-  
tain building, Oswego. W. C. Watkins nom-

inated for representative Eighty-fifth district, H. C. Bridgman for county treasurer. The rest of the ticket was left for parties to run independent. Dr. J. B. Thurman ran for probate judge.

September 19, 1868, Fleming building, Oswego; J. D. McCue, chairman, J. F. Waskey, secretary. Representative Eighty-fifth district, W. C. Watkins; superintendent public instruction, Jacob Ruble; county commissioner, G. W. Franklin; county attorney, N. L. Hibbard; county clerk, D. W. Clover; clerk district court, E. Wells; probate judge, John Richardson.

In 1869 no convention was held, a caucus deeming it best to let parties run independent who wished to oppose the Republican ticket.

July 23, 1870, court-house, Oswego. M. V. B. Bennett made a speech, and steps were taken to effectually organize the party in the county; what had been done theretofore having been rather informal, and hardly regular party action. A county convention was called for September 10, 1870, at Oswego, which assembled, and adjourned to September 24th, after electing W. P. Lamb and M. V. B. Bennett delegates to the state convention.

September 24, 1870, Oswego; D. J. Doolen, chairman, George W. Houston, secretary. D. C. Hutchinson, representative Eighty-fifth district; J. A. Cox, probate judge; L. F. Fisher, county attorney; J. J. Browne, superintendent public instruction; J. M. Cunningham, clerk district court; J. M. Richardson, commissioner third district.

M. V. B. Bennett, chairman central committee. August 5, 1871, J. J. Browne elected in the place of Bennett, resigned; J. F. Waskey, secretary.

October 21, 1871, Oswego; J. J. Browne, chairman. Sheriff, G. W. Franklin; treasurer,

J. F. Waskey; county clerk, George W. Houston; register, Frank Campbell; surveyor, Wade H. Prichard; coroner, G. D. Boon; commissioner first district, D. J. Doolen; third district, J. M. Richardson; representative Forty-fourth district, Gilbert A. Cooper.

J. J. Browne, chairman central committee, August 24, 1872, Oswego; J. J. Browne, chairman, J. F. Waskey, secretary. Democratic and Liberal Republican conventions in session at same time; H. L. Taylor, chairman, and J. M. Mahr, secretary Liberal convention. Each convention instructed its central committee to confer and unite in calling a county convention to nominate a fusion ticket.

October 18, 1872, court-house, Oswego; H. L. Taylor, chairman, J. J. Browne, secretary; Democratic-Liberal convention. Senator Fifteenth district, William Dick; probate judge, Thomas H. Bruner; county attorney, R. M. Donelly; clerk district court, J. H. Macon; superintendent public instruction, David Donovan; coroner, A. P. Johnson; commissioner second district, C. M. Monroe; representatives, Forty-third district, T. C. Cory; Forty-fourth, Christian Lieb.

No convention held in 1873.

In 1874 the Democrats united with Liberal Republicans, and held a Democratic-Reform convention, October 14, 1874, Labette City; William Dick, chairman. Senator Fifteenth district, J. M. Mahr, on first ballot; district clerk, R. C. Taylor, on first ballot, over A. J. Cary; county attorney, J. C. Parkhurst, by acclamation; probate judge, H. C. Blanchard, on first ballot, over S. L. Coulter (not present); superintendent public instruction, E. H. Taylor, on first ballot, over Mary A. Higby; representative Forty-third district, William Dick, on first ballot, over C. M. Monroe and J. C. Merwin; representative Forty-fourth district,

W. T. Cunningham and D. J. Doolen were successively nominated and declined, after which Henry Tibbets was nominated by acclamation.

J. B. Lamb, chairman central committee.

October 8, 1875, Oswego; R. M. Donelly, chairman, Dr. M. M. Milligan, secretary. Treasurer, A. J. Cary, by acclamation; sheriff, Nixon Elliott, on first ballot, over J. H. Macon and W. M. Rogers; county clerk, L. C. Howard, by acclamation; surveyor, Wade Prichard, by acclamation; register, R. C. Taylor, by acclamation; coroner, Dr. M. M. Milligan, by acclamation; commissioners, first district, D. J. Doolen; second, Christian Lieb; third, J. H. Martin; representatives, Forty-third district, G. W. Graybill; Forty-fourth, H. G. Webb.

J. B. Lamb, chairman central committee, T. B. J. Wheat, secretary.

September 23, 1876, court-house, Oswego; R. M. Donelly, chairman, Nixon Elliott, secretary. Senator Fifteenth district, Angell Mathewson, by acclamation; county attorney, W. P. Talbot, on first ballot, over G. W. Fox; probate judge, D. J. Doolen, on first ballot, over Dr. J. Spruill; clerk district court, I. H. Fry, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Hattie Coleman, by acclamation.

G. W. Fox, chairman central committee, W. J. Herman, secretary.

September 29, 1877. Central committee decided not to hold convention. G. W. Fox, chairman, W. J. Herman, secretary.

September 21, 1878, Oswego; G. W. Fox, chairman, J. B. Lamb, secretary. Probate judge, P. Y. Thomas; representatives, Forty-fourth district, J. H. Martin; Forty-fifth, H. C. Blanchard; clerk district court, J. K. Russell; county attorney, I. S. Jones; superintendent

public instruction J. Covalt; commissioner first district, D. J. Doolen.

G. W. Fox, chairman central committee, D. H. Mays, secretary.

August 25, 1879, Oswego; G. W. Gabriel, chairman, H. C. Hall, secretary. Treasurer, T. P. Waskey; sheriff, J. H. Macon; register, W. T. Berry; county clerk, L. C. Howard; surveyor, S. R. Southwick (W. H. Godwin substituted); coroner, J. B. Lamb; commissioner second district, I. D. Johnson.

G. W. Fox, chairman central committee, J. M. Hall, secretary.

October 9, 1880, Oswego; G. W. Fox, chairman, F. C. Helsell, secretary. Committee having consulted with committee from Greenback party, reported in favor of union on following basis; Greenback nominees for senator, district clerk and superintendent to be indorsed, and the Greenbackers to withdraw their candidates for and indorse Democratic nominees for county attorney, probate judge, and representatives in Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth districts. Adopted.—County attorney, George F. King, on first ballot, over W. P. Talbot; probate judge, W. P. Talbot, on first ballot, over James Barton; senator Fifteenth district, Geo. Campbell; clerk district court, J. K. Russell; superintendent public instruction, M. T. McCarty indorsed; commissioner third district, A. H. McCormick indorsed.

G. W. Fox, chairman central committee, F. C. Helsell, secretary.

October 11, 1881. Central committee decided not to hold convention. Mr. Fox resigned as chairman central committee, and J. M. Mahr was elected chairman, F. C. Helsell, secretary.

August 12, 1882, court-house, Oswego;



George S. King, chairman, C. F. Winton, secretary. Probate judge, A. G. Drake, by acclamation; county attorney, R. T. Holloway, by acclamation; clerk district court, R. C. Taylor. Authorized committee to fill vacancies.

October 7, 1882. Central committee accepted A. G. Drake's withdrawal as probate judge, and agreed to leave that place and also superintendent, vacant, and to support Greenback nominees. Nominated C. M. Monroe commissioner second district.

J. M. Mahr, chairman central committee, George S. King, secretary.

September 22, 1883, Oswego; J. M. Mahr, chairman, George S. King, secretary. Sheriff, J. P. DeJarnett, on first ballot, over J. J. Freeman and A. J. Mapes; treasurer, E. C. Dent, on first ballot, over J. F. Waskey; register, J. M. Cunningham, over C. M. Monroe, on first ballot; county clerk, F. W. Fry, on first ballot, over J. M. Bannan; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell, by acclamation; commissioner third district, M. E. Carson.

W. H. Morris, chairman central committee, George S. King, secretary.

October 14, 1884, court-house, Oswego; J. R. Brown, chairman, W. H. Cook, secretary. Senator Ninth district, J. J. Kackley; probate judge, F. M. Smith; clerk district court, J. M. Cunningham; no nominee for superintendent; W. H. Cook, commissioner first district, indorsed.

J. R. Brown, chairman central committee, J. M. Landis, secretary.

October 28, 1884. Central committee accepted the withdrawal of J. J. Kackley, and placed W. J. Conner's name in his place; also nominated George S. King county attorney, and J. Covalt, superintendent. Afterward Chairman Brown and others published a card

denouncing action of committee in placing Conner's name on ticket, etc.

October 6, 1885, Oswego; J. P. DeJarnett, chairman, W. W. Fry, secretary. Treasurer, E. W. Ross; register, George Miller; sheriff, H. R. Lewis; county clerk, J. S. Odell; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell; coroner, T. A. H. Lowe; commissioner second district, Lewis Goodwin.

G. W. Gabriel, chairman central committee, J. M. Landis, secretary.

October 12, 1886, opera house, Oswego; A. H. Garnett, chairman, I. H. Fry and A. W. Mackie, secretaries. Probate judge, G. W. Gabriel, by acclamation; county superintendent, G. Guy Morris, on first ballot, over Fanny Cooper; representative Twenty-ninth district, Gilbert A. Cooper. Motion carried to make no farther nominations, in interest of State and Congressional tickets.

G. W. Gabriel, chairman central committee, A. H. Garnett, secretary.

During this canvass Dr. Gabriel withdrew as candidate for probate judge, and the central committee placed J. J. McFeely on the ticket in his place.

September 13, 1887, Oswego; A. H. Garnett, chairman, J. S. Odell, secretary. Treasurer, James L. Wilson; sheriff, Samuel Ledge-wood; register of deeds, I. H. Fry; county clerk, D. H. Martin; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell; coroner, Caesar Wilson.

G. W. Gabriel, chairman central committee, A. H. Garnett, secretary.

September 11, 1888, Mound Valley; G. W. Gabriel, chairman, J. F. Waskey, secretary. Senator Tenth district, R. L. Sharp, by acclamation; probate judge, J. W. Deatherage, by acclamation; county attorney, F. M. Smith, by acclamation; clerk district court, E. W. Ross, by acclamation; superintendent, Fanny

Cooper, by acclamation; representatives, Twenty-eighth district, M. V. B. Davis; Twentieth, George S. King; Thirtieth, W. G. Reamer.

J. F. Waskey, chairman central committee, Geo. S. Liggett, secretary.

September 26, 1889, Chetopa; E. C. Dent, chairman, F. M. Smith, secretary. Treasurer, J. F. Waskey; sheriff, W. H. Swartzell; register, I. D. Highleyman; county clerk, I. M. Hinds; surveyor, J. H. Dersham; coroner, A. H. Wells.

J. M. Kleiser, chairman central committee.

August 30, 1890, Parsons; J. M. Kleiser, chairman, J. J. Rambo, secretary. Clerk district court, Isaac M. Hinds; county attorney, George S. King.

August 20, 1891, court-house, Oswego; J. F. Waskey, chairman, F. W. Frye, secretary. Treasurer, J. W. Galyen; sheriff, W. H. Swartzell; register, W. S. Houghton; county clerk, J. J. Freeman; coroner, George S. Liggett; surveyor, J. H. Dersham; commissioner third district, W. A. Huff.

F. W. Frye, chairman central committee, George S. Liggett, secretary.

September 29, 1892, Chetopa; George S. Liggett, chairman, A. J. Austin, secretary. The convention indorsed the full ticket theretofore nominated by the People's party.

J. M. Landis, chairman central committee, J. F. Waskey, secretary.

September 29, 1893, Mound Valley; G. W. Gabriel, chairman, J. W. Waskey, secretary. Treasurer, J. B. Montgomery, by acclamation; county clerk, J. J. Rambo, over John W. Rickart; sheriff, J. C. Arnold, over C. R. Walters and I. D. Highleyman; register of deeds, Frank F. Lamb, by acclamation; surveyor, C. R. Walters, by acclamation; coroner, Dr. A. B. Temple, by acclamation; commissioner first

district, Jerome Callahan, by acclamation; high school trustees John Gilham, P. W. Shick, W. S. Jones, G. W. Gabriel, I. D. Highleyman, W. S. Huff.

J. M. Kleiser, chairman central committee, J. F. Waskey, secretary.

August 17, 1894, Parsons; J. O. McKee, chairman, Alf D. Carpenter, secretary. Probate judge, Harry Levi; county attorney, I. D. Highleyman; clerk district court, John W. Rickart; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Kate Southwick.

G. W. Gabriel, chairman central committee, J. D. H. Reed, secretary.

September 12, 1895, Oswego; J. O. McKee, chairman, J. D. H. Reed, secretary. Treasurer, J. W. Galyen; county clerk, J. D. H. Reed; sheriff, J. D. Jones; register of deeds, P. J. McGinley; coroner, George S. Liggett; commissioner third district, G. W. Gabriel.

George S. King, chairman central committee, J. D. H. Reed, secretary.

September 24, 1896, Oswego; George S. King, chairman, J. D. H. Reed, secretary. The convention endorsed the whole Populist ticket.

Charles M. Frye, chairman central committee, C. A. Lamb, secretary.

August 24, 1897, Oswego; W. P. Eddy, chairman, Alf D. Carpenter, secretary. County clerk, E. H. Hughes; high school trustee, George S. King. The convention endorsed the remainder of the Populist ticket.

C. A. Lamb, chairman central committee, Charles P. Garst, secretary.

July 16, 1898, Parsons; C. S. Leinbach, chairman, George S. King, secretary. County attorney, I. D. Highleyman; probate judge, George S. King; clerk district court, A. R. Bradfield; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Kate Southwick; coroner, (to fill va-

cancy), Josiah Richmond; high school trustees, Walter Phillips and W. H. Cook for full term, James E. Rice to fill vacancy; commissioner third district, W. H. Swartzell.

W. P. Eddy, chairman central committee, A. H. McCarty, secretary.

September 12, 1899, Parsons; W. P. Eddy, chairman, B. F. Goudy, secretary. Convention endorsed the whole Populist ticket.

W. P. Eddy, chairman central committee, A. H. McCarty, secretary.

June 6, 1900, Parsons; A. H. McCarty, chairman, James Wilson, secretary. Senator, G. W. Gabriel, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Kate Southwick, by acclamation; high school trustees, George S. Kingover and C. H. Bowman; commissioner second district, Philip Gears, by acclamation. Endorsed the remainder of the Populist ticket.

P. F. Smith, chairman central committee, A. H. McCarty, secretary.

#### DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT CONVENTIONS.

Usually there was a fusion of the Democratic party with some other party on candidates for the Legislature; the names here given are those for whom the Democrats generally voted. Sometimes they were nominated by a convention, sometimes indorsed by the convention, sometimes by the central committee, and sometimes no definite action at all was taken upon their candidacy.

*Forty-fourth District.*—October 4, 1876, Parsons. A. Wilson nominated on first ballot; vote was reconsidered, and on second ballot G. W. Gabriel nominated.—In 1878, J. H. Martin.—September 25, 1880, Parsons; W. H. Morris.

*Forty-fifth District.*—October 7, 1876. decided not to make any nominations.—October 16, 1880, Oswego. Joint convention of Democrats and Greenbackers; Thomas Wilson, chairman, George S. King, secretary. J. C. Murphy, on second ballot, over D. Doyle.

*Forty-sixth District.*—October 7, 1876, Chetopa; A. G. Drake, chairman, W. J. Milliken, secretary. George E. Stone, by acclamation.—October 16, 1880, Chetopa. A. D. Martin.

*Thirty-third District.*—In 1882, G. W. Gabriel; in 1884, W. H. Porter.

*Thirty-fourth District.*—In 1882, George Campbell; in 1884, J. W. Deatherage.

*Thirty-fifth District.*—October 14, 1882, Chetopa, W. P. Wilson; in 1884, H. H. Lieb.

*Twenty-eighth District.*—In 1886, W. H. Utley; in 1888, — Davis.—August 30, 1890, Parsons; S. C. Rickart, chairman. Jas. Tanner indorsed.

*Twenty-ninth District.*—October 12, 1886, Oswego; Levi Metier, chairman, Walter Phillips, secretary. Gilbert A. Cooper, on first ballot, over E. Tanner.—In 1888, George S. King. In 1890, central committee indorsed P. A. Morrison.

*Thirtieth District.*—In 1886, R. S. Lybarger; in 1888, R. S. Lybarger. In 1890, central committee indorsed candidacy of Alexander Duncan.

In 1892 the county convention indorsed the Populist ticket, including the candidates for representative in both districts. In 1894 no representative conventions were held, and no action taken in county convention in reference to representatives. In 1896 the county convention indorsed the whole Populist ticket, including the candidates for representatives in both districts.

*Twenty-seventh District.*—July 23, 1898,

Parsons; C. K. Leinbach, chairman, James Wilson, secretary. G. W. Gabriel, by acclamation.—September 29, 1900, Parsons; J. L. Wilson, chairman, S. S. Huffman, secretary. Grant Hume, the Populist candidate, was indorsed by acclamation.

*Twenty-eighth District.*—August 13, 1898, Edna; C. S. Carlton, chairman, A. H. McCarty, secretary. J. F. Waskey, by acclamation.—July 29, 1900, Chetopa; George S. King, chairman, C. S. Carlton, secretary. M. I. Daviss, the Populist candidate, was indorsed by acclamation.

#### GREENBACK COUNTY CONVENTIONS.

October 23, 1877, city hall, Parsons; A. N. Sourbeer, chairman, A. H. McCleary, secretary. Treasurer, A. J. Cary; sheriff, J. H. Macon; county clerk, L. C. Howard; register, H. E. Ingraham; surveyor, W. H. Prichard; coroner, B. D. Ellis; commissioner third district, P. W. Shick.

F. A. Briggs, chairman central committee, A. S. Harper, secretary.

April 6, 1878, delegates from various Greenback clubs met at Parsons for permanent organization, and elected an executive committee, of which J. W. Briggs was made chairman and S. M. Bailey, secretary.

August 20, 1878, grove near Labette City; R. M. Donnelly, chairman, S. M. Bailey, secretary. Probate judge, W. A. Starr, on first ballot, over Noah Guymon; county attorney, J. A. Ball, on first ballot, over A. B. Hacker; superintendent, J. Covalt, by acclamation; district clerk, J. K. Russell, by acclamation; representative Forty-sixth district, J. M. Bannan.

August 21, 1879, Labette City; J. O. McKee, chairman, J. W. Breidenthal, secretary. Sheriff, J. O. McKee, by acclamation; treasurer, W. H. Porter, on second ballot, over John

Hoffman, W. P. Wilson, and Noah Guymon; county clerk, S. M. Bailey, on first ballot, over W. P. Wilson; register, Lewis Goodwin, on first ballot, over Nelson Curl and J. J. McFeely; coroner, Moses Steel, by acclamation; surveyor, W. H. Godwin; commissioner second district, J. C. Murphy.

M. Snook, chairman central committee.

August 14, 1880, Parsons; D. Doyle, chairman, W. H. Potter, secretary. Senator, George Campbell; clerk district court, J. K. Russell; probate judge, J. M. C. Reed; superintendent public instruction, M. T. McCarthy.

J. J. McFeely, chairman central committee, L. Garneau, secretary.

October 16, 1881, Mound Valley; J. J. McFeely, chairman, George Campbell, secretary. Register, J. W. Breidenthal, on first ballot, over W. P. Wilson, T. J. Finley, and W. J. Millikin; treasurer, A. H. McCormick, on first ballot, over W. J. Millikin; county clerk, T. J. Finley, on first ballot, over J. Reasor and T. L. Cotton; sheriff, W. P. Wilson, on first ballot, over John Hoffman; coroner, William Rowe; commissioner first district, D. Doyle.

J. M. Bannon, chairman central committee, J. W. Breidenthal, secretary.

October 7, 1882, Oswego; J. J. McFeely, chairman, C. L. Albin, secretary. District clerk, J. K. Russell, by acclamation; probate judge, J. J. McFeely, by acclamation; county attorney, no nomination; superintendent public instruction, J. Covalt, on first ballot, over Angela Bishop and Mary Bradbury; coroner, W. J. Millikin, acclamation; representatives, Thirty-fourth district, George Campbell; Thirty-fifth, W. P. Wilson; commissioner second district, M. Breidenthal.

J. M. Bannan, chairman central committee, J. W. Breidenthal, secretary.

October 23, 1883, Mound Valley; J. W. Breidenthal, chairman. Treasurer, L. Gar-

neau; sheriff, J. C. Murphy; register, W. Miller; county clerk, J. W. Fleming; coroner, U. Osborne.

J. W. Breidenthal, chairman central committee, L. N. Thompson, secretary.

October 27, 1884, Parsons; representative Thirty-third district, W. H. Porter.

#### GREENBACK DISTRICT CONVENTIONS.

*Forty-fourth District.*—August 17, 1878, Parsons. James H. Martin nominated.—September 25, 1880, Parsons. James H. Martin, representative, and A. H. McCormick, commissioner.

*Forty-fifth District.*—August 14, 1878, Altamont. H. C. Blanchard.—October 16, 1880, Oswego; Thomas Wilson, chairman, George S. King, secretary. Joint convention of Democrats and Greenbackers. J. C. Murphy, on second ballot, over D. Doyle.

*Forty-sixth District.*—1878, Chetopa; John M. Bannan. October 15, 1880, Kingston. W. P. Wilson.

#### TEMPERANCE CONVENTIONS.

September 24, Oswego, 1874; adjourned to October 6; C. Humble, chairman, Nelson Case, secretary. The convention indorsed the following nominations that had been made by party conventions; Willard Davis and J. G. Parkhurst, county attorney; J. D. McCue, district judge; H. C. Blanchard, probate judge; Mary A. Higby, superintendent public instruction; J. G. Coleman, coroner; representatives, William Dick, — district; Henry Tibbets, Forty-third; J. C. McKnight, Forty-fourth; J. J. Woods was nominated for senator Fifteenth district. The matter of indorsing S. L. Coulter for probate judge and H. C. Cook for clerk district court was left to be acted on by a com-

mittee after investigation was had as to their temperance faith.

August 15, 1876, Parsons; M. G. Brown, chairman, C. T. Smith, secretary. Senator, M. G. Brown; county attorney, Nelson Case; probate judge, S. L. Coulter; clerk district court, H. C. Cook; superintendent public instruction, Hettie Coleman.

August 24, 1882, on call of the Oswego Temperance Union, a meeting was held in a grove near Labette City; Rev. John Elliott, chairman, J. M. Bowman, secretary. Resolved to form the Labette County Prohibition Union. Favored only temperance men for officers, and demanded enforcement of the prohibitory law.

#### PROHIBITION CONVENTIONS.

September 30, 1891, Parsons; W. S. Newlon, chairman, G. W. Marley, secretary. Treasurer, W. S. Newlon; sheriff, J. B. Jones; register, Mary Scott; county clerk, T. O. Emerson; commissioner, C. B. Bennett.

August 6, 1892, Parsons; W. S. Newlon, chairman, G. W. Marley, secretary. Senator, J. M. Magie; representatives, Twenty-sixth district, G. W. Marley, Twenty-seventh, B. F. Lucas; probate judge, O. F. Walker; clerk district court, James Beggs; superintendent public instruction, Mary Scott; commissioner second district, W. E. Snyder.

W. S. Newlon, chairman central committee, G. W. Marley, secretary.

August 12, 1893, Oswego; treasurer, J. F. Woolford; county clerk, George W. Doughman; sheriff, George Anthony; register of deeds, Mrs. Eva Riker.

June 2, 1894, Mound Valley; probate judge, E. A. Graham; clerk district court, C. F. Doughman; superintendent public instruction, Miss Beebe Thompson.

August 15, 1895, Oswego; representative Twenty-sixth district, John Thompson; representative Twenty-sixth district, Rev. W. S. Bundy; treasurer, A. B. Wilson; county clerk, James Beggs; sheriff, D. B. Woolford; register of deeds, Elizabeth Emerson.

#### UNION LABOR COUNTY CONVENTIONS.

September 15, 1887, Parsons; W. H. Utley, chairman, W. J. Bryant, F. W. Dauth and A. W. Mackie, secretaries. Treasurer, W. H. Porter, on second ballot, over H. Leib, Alexander Duncan, A. H. Mickey, John Richardson, Frank Briggs; county clerk, W. J. Millikin, on second ballot, over A. H. Mickey, C. C. Robbins, Milo Hildreth, A. Moore; register, J. K. Russell, on second ballot over B. F. Rolls, Thomas Lawrence, C. F. Turner and W. F. Grierson; sheriff, W. P. Wilson, on third ballot, over William Cook, Ed. Foyle, J. R. Duncan, Frank Briggs, Wm. Orr and D. W. Butler; surveyor, C. C. Robbins, on first ballot, over John M. Hart and Levi Ferguson; coroner, A. R. Clarady, on first ballot, over Peter Hogan; commissioner first district, S. N. Woodruff.

W. H. Utley, chairman central committee, W. H. Porter, secretary.

August 21, 1888, Chetopa; J. W. Breidenthal, chairman, Geo. Campbell and A. A. King, secretaries. Senator Tenth district, George Campbell, on second ballot, over A. J. Hixon, W. J. Gillette and R. W. Wright; clerk of the district court, L. F. Dick, on fifth ballot, over A. W. Mackie, R. S. Lybarger, J. M. Morgan and J. R. Hill; probate judge, Nelson Abbott, on third ballot, over C. T. Bridgman, J. M. C. Reed, J. W. Evans, R. S. Lybarger, S. T. Cherry, J. R. Hill and John Richardson; county attorney, Jess Brockway, on second ballot,

over J. J. McFeely, M. Byrne, G. W. Hendricks, C. C. Robbins, R. S. Lybarger; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Lucy Best, by acclamation.

Wm. Cook, chairman central committee, Nelson Abbott, secretary.

September 7, 1889, Parsons; J. W. Breidenthal, chairman, L. F. Dick, secretary. Treasurer, W. H. Porter, by acclamation; sheriff, Wm. Cook, on second ballot, over E. A. Richcreek, J. R. Duncan and W. P. Wilson; county clerk, A. H. Mickey, on fourth ballot, over J. A. Jones and W. J. Millikin; register, J. K. Russell, on first ballot, over F. C. Turner, C. L. Albin and George Campbell; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell, by acclamation; coroner, Wm. Rowe, by acclamation.

Wm. Cook, chairman central committee, J. R. Hill, secretary.

#### UNION LABOR REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT CONVENTIONS.

*Twenty-eighth District.*—September 8, 1888, at Parsons. A. J. Hixon, nominated by acclamation.—June 11, 1890, at Parsons. James Tanner, nominated by acclamation.

*Twenty-ninth District.*—September 8, 1888, at Oswego; A. W. Mackie, chairman, A. A. King, secretary. George Pfaff, on first ballot, over — Harmon and Milo Hildreth.—July 29, 1890, in connection with People's county convention at Parsons. P. A. Morrison.

*Thirtieth District.*—September 1, 1888, at Edna; J. H. Reasor, chairman, E. H. Breidenthal, secretary. R. S. Lybarger, on first ballot, over C. W. Holman and Levi Ferguson.—July 29, 1890, in connection with People's county convention at Parsons. Alexander Duncan.



## PEOPLE'S PARTY COUNTY CONVENTIONS.

Parsons, July 29, 1890; E. A. Richcreek, chairman, A. H. McCormick and Harry Mills, secretaries. Clerk of district court, J. A. Jones, on second ballot, over I. M. Waldrop, R. A. Johnson, L. F. Dick, J. M. Morgan, W. N. McCoid and W. H. Porter; probate judge, E. A. Richcreek, on first ballot, over J. H. Reasor, A. J. Hixon, J. W. Harrah, John Richardson; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Lucy Best, by acclamation; county attorney, J. R. Hill, on third ballot, over M. E. Williams, W. J. Gillette and George S. King; commissioner first district, Gilbert A. Cooper; representatives, Twenty-ninth district, P. A. Morrison; Thirtieth, Alexander Duncan.

E. A. Richcreek, chairman central committee, Harry Mills, secretary.

September 3, 1891, Parsons; E. A. Richcreek, chairman, Harry Mills, secretary. Treasurer, Martin V. Davis, on second ballot, over John Richardson and Ben Johnson; sheriff, William Cook, on first ballot, over A. B. Funk, J. R. Duncan and A. Sharp; register, A. W. Mackie, on first ballot, over George Blank, F. T. Deinst and W. N. McCoid; county clerk, D. H. Martin, on first ballot, over W. J. Millikin, I. N. Watson, and I. M. Waldrop; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell; coroner, J. H. Miller.

Harry Mills, chairman central committee, A. W. Mackie, secretary.

August 9, 1892, Parsons; J. F. Hill, chairman, L. F. Dick and Harry Mills, secretaries. Senator, John H. Riley, by acclamation; probate judge, George Campbell, on third ballot, over E. A. Richcreek, A. J. Hixon and H. Summers; clerk district court, Jesse M. Morgan, on first ballot, over A. W. Jones and R. A. Johnson; county attorney, M. E. Williams, on first ballot, over H. G. Webb; superintendent

public instruction, Mrs. Lucy Best, by acclamation; commissioner second district, J. A. Jarboe.

William Cook, chairman central committee, D. H. Martin, secretary.

August 26, 1893, Parsons; Dr. E. Tanner, chairman, Isaiah Brown, secretary. Treasurer, M. V. Davis, by acclamation; county clerk, D. H. Martin, by acclamation; sheriff, George Carr, over I. N. Watson, A. F. Edwards, Benjamin Johnson and J. L. Masters; register of deeds, Thomas Todd, over Leonard Rude, L. Brown, T. E. Dienst, J. H. Reasor and A. H. Mackie; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell, by acclamation; coroner, H. C. Hairgrove, by acclamation; commissioner first district (at a later date), Gilbert A. Cooper, by acclamation; high school trustees, the full board as appointed by the county commissioners, viz.: Nelson Case, J. E. Vansant, W. A. Huff, Benjamin Johnson, William Scott and J. M. Birt.

Dr. E. Tanner, chairman central committee.

June 5, 1894, Oswego; J. M. Baunan, chairman, D. H. Martin, secretary. Probate judge, George Campbell, by acclamation; county attorney, M. E. Williams, by acclamation; clerk district court, Henry A. Lamb, over Henry S. Atwood; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Ella Martin, over Frank Brady, Mrs. Kate Ellage, William H. Conner, A. W. Potter, Miss Beebe Thompson and Mrs. Hattie Ham; high school trustees, George Pfaff and A. J. Hixon, over F. C. Petrie, H. K. Baker and A. H. Mickey; commissioner second district (at a later date), J. C. Goodell, over Milo Hildreth.

William Cook, chairman central committee, J. K. Russell, secretary.

September 12, 1895, Oswego; E. A. Richcreek, chairman, D. H. Martin, secretary. Treasurer, Henry S. Atwood, by acclamation;

county clerk, E. A. Steel, over F. C. Petrie; sheriff, J. D. Jones, by acclamation; register of deeds, Isaiah Brown, over W. J. Hall and G. J. Coleman; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell, by acclamation; coroner, Dr. E. Tanner, by acclamation,—Dr. Tanner declined and Dr. J. B. Hill was subsequently substituted in his place; high school trustees, G. J. Coleman and William Scott, by acclamation; commissioner third district (at a later date), G. W. Gabriel, over J. A. Jarboe.

M. E. Williams, chairman central committee, F. G. Martin, secretary.

August 18, 1896, Parsons; J. I. Tanner, chairman, H. A. Lamb, secretary. Senator, George Campbell, over G. W. Gabriel and Gilbert A. Cooper; probate judge, Daniel Pfaff, over J. L. Masters and C. T. Bridgman; county attorney, Frank Brady, over M. E. Williams and Frank F. Lamb; clerk district court, John Mayer, over F. W. Frewert, W. D. Harvey and D. H. Martin; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Hattie Ham, over Mrs. Minnie Wells, Miss Mary Walker, W. B. Covalt, John Jones, E. L. McKnight and A. W. Potter; commissioner first district (at a later date), D. S. Romine, over T. A. Sprague; high school trustees, A. F. Edwards and Milo Hildreth over Stanley Foland, John Richardson and Josiah Richmond.

A. F. Edwards, chairman central committee, F. H. Atchinson, secretary.

August 27, 1897, Oswego; F. H. Atchinson, chairman, W. A. Disch, secretary. Treasurer, Daniel Jennings, over Dr. Lee Williams and John M. Doughman; county clerk, E. H. Hughes (the Democratic nominee), indorsed by acclamation; sheriff, A. F. Edwards, over B. L. Jones and Samuel Richardson; register of deeds, J. L. Masters, over Theodore Dienst, E. L. McKnight, J. H. Reasor, W. H. Hazen,

Leonard Rude and L. S. Alford; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell, by acclamation; coroner, William Rowe, by acclamation; commissioner second district (at a later date), Philip Gears, over J. C. Goodell, J. B. Oliphant, F. C. Petrie, J. L. Gillette and Milo Hildreth; high school trustees, George S. King (the Democratic nominee), indorsed by acclamation, and M. I. Davis, over A. J. Hixon, Israel Foster and H. McIntosh.

A. F. Edwards, chairman central committee, R. H. Atchinson, secretary.

July 16, 1898, Parsons; J. I. Tanner, chairman. Probate judge, Daniel Pfaff, over W. C. Burns and G. W. Hendricks; county attorney, F. M. Brady, by acclamation; clerk district court, John Mayer, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, Mrs. Hattie Ham, by acclamation; coroner (to fill vacancy), D. W. Mathews, by acclamation; commissioner third district (at a later date), T. J. Van Horn; high school trustees, Walter Phillips and Israel Foster for full term, and J. J. Jones to fill vacancy.

J. A. Jarboe, chairman central committee, J. H. Curran, secretary.

September 2, 1899, Parsons; David Oliphant, chairman, W. A. Disch, secretary. Treasurer, David Jennings, over Dr. Lee Williams; county clerk, E. H. Hughes, by acclamation; sheriff, A. F. Edwards, by acclamation; register of deeds, F. H. Briggs, over W. D. Harry and C. S. Fuller; surveyor, A. B. Bushnell, by acclamation; coroner, George W. Smith, by acclamation; commissioner first district (at a later date), D. S. Romine, by acclamation; high school trustees, C. K. Leinbach and Milo Hildreth, by acclamation.

George Campbell, chairman central committee, W. A. Disch, secretary.

April 26, 1900, Parsons; J. I. Tanner,

chairman, Dr. C. S. Bendure, secretary. Probate judge, W. C. Burns, over John Sears and Grant Hume; county attorney, W. S. Hyatt, over George Campbell, M. E. Williams and Frank F. Lamb; clerk district court, B. F. Harrison, over W. A. Disch, John Bero and George Reasor; high school trustee, Milo Hildreth, by acclamation. Balance of ticket left open for Democrats to fill.

William Cook, chairman central committee, D. H. Martin, secretary.

#### PEOPLE'S PARTY DISTRICT CONVENTIONS.

*Twenty-sixth District.*—June 20, 1892, Parsons; Dr. E. Tanner, chairman, H. C. Sourbeier, secretary. J. L. Humphrey on first ballot, over A. F. Neely and Daniel Pfaff.—August 11, 1894, Parsons; J. I. Tanner, over Daniel Pfaff and J. W. Galyen. Mr. Tanner declined the nomination and a new convention was held at Parsons, September 8, 1894; Arch Piper, over Ed. Burtle. Mr. Piper declined the nomination and a third convention was held at Parsons September 22, 1894; A. H. McCormick, over Ed. Burtle.—August 18, 1896, Parsons; M. E. Steel, chairman, William Thorne, Jr., secretary. Benjamin Johnson, over L. D. Oliphant and W. H. Thorne.

*Twenty-seventh District.*—August 13, 1892, Chetopa; Gilbert A. Cooper, chairman, M. E. Williams, secretary. P. A. Morrison, on first ballot, over John Ford.—August 18, 1894, Altamont; J. H. Reasor, chairman, A. A. King, secretary. W. J. Kabrey, over John Ford.—August 22, 1896, Bartlett; J. H. Reasor, chairman, E. E. Gobble, secretary. Charles R. Walters, over John Newberry and J. C. McKnight.—July 23, 1898, Parsons; James Harris, chairman, J. E. Ryan, secretary. G. W. Gabriel (Democratic nominee) indorsed

over Frank F. Lamb.—September 29, 1900, Parsons; J. I. Tanner, chairman, W. F. Gillette, secretary. Grant Hume over Dr. J. W. Tinder and Frank F. Lamb.

*Twenty-eighth District.*—August 13, 1898, Edna; R. B. Claiborne, chairman, C. M. Doughman, secretary. N. S. Clark over Oscar Van Bibb. Subsequently, Mr. Clark withdrew in favor of the Democratic candidate.—July 29, 1900, Chetopa; George Pfaff, chairman, A. H. Mickey, secretary. M. I. Daviss, by acclamation.

#### SENATORIAL CONVENTIONS.

*Sixteenth Senatorial District.*—October —, 1866, Republican convention held at Iola. Dr. J. W. Scott was nominated over J. C. Carpenter and J. S. Waters.

The Democratic convention was held at Humboldt, and Col. Willoughby Doudna was nominated.

October 15, 1868, Republican convention met at Erie; R. W. Wright was chairman. and J. C. Redfield, secretary. J. C. Carpenter was nominated on eleventh ballot over E. R. Trask and A. A. Aiken.

October 24, 1868, Democratic convention convened at Osage Mission, and F. M. Frost was nominated.

September 29, 1870, Republican convention was held at Humboldt; J. M. Beardsley was chairman, and P. I. B. Ping, secretary. J. H. Crichton was nominated on tenth ballot over J. W. Dowe and G. P. Smith, of Allen county. A. Miller, of Wilson county, J. C. Carpenter of Neosho county, and H. W. Martin, of La-bette county.

October 6, 1870, Democratic convention met at Humboldt. J. M. Richardson, of La-bette county, was nominated over Moses Neal and others.

September 21, 1870, Settlers' Protective Association held a convention at Prairie du Chien, in Neosho county; G. W. McMillen was chairman, and George T. Walton secretary. Major H. C. Whitney was unanimously nominated.

#### JUDICIAL CONVENTIONS.

In 1867 N. F. Acres and John R. Goodin were opposing candidates for judge of the Seventh judicial district.

October 10, 1870, Republican convention met in Oswego, with four delegates each from Montgomery, Labette and Crawford counties, and five from Cherokee; T. E. Clark, chairman, W. W. Jones, secretary. On the 64th ballot the delegates from Labette county changed their vote from W. P. Bishop to W. M. Matheny, and nominated him over W. P. Bishop, John T. Voss, and Thomas Harrison, as a candidate for judge of the Eleventh judicial district. H. G. Webb ran as an independent candidate.

In 1873 B. W. Perkins, H. W. Barnes, J. M. Scudder and J. G. Parkhurst were opposing candidates, each running independent.

In 1874 a "Reform Convention" convened at Parsons, September 23d, with J. H. Waterman, chairman, and C. O. Stockslager, secretary. J. D. McCue was nominated on second ballot over J. N. Ritter, A. A. Fletcher, and B. F. Purcell. B. W. Perkins again ran independent.

September 12, 1878, a Greenback convention assembled at Parsons, and nominated J. F. Broadhead. Opposed to him at the polls were B. W. Perkins and W. B. Glasse, each running independent.

On October 3, 1882, a Republican convention met at Cherokee; J. R. Hallowell, chairman. On the 264th ballot George Chandler

was nominated over W. B. Glasse, John N. Ritter, and John T. Voss. Opposed to him W. M. Matheny ran as an independent candidate.

In 1886 George Chandler was an independent, with no opponent.

A Republican convention assembled in Independence October 1, 1889, with S. L. Coulter, chairman, and W. T. Yoe, secretary. John N. Ritter was nominated by acclamation. J. D. McCue ran independent.

A Republican convention was held at Parsons on September 11, 1890; George W. Wheatley, chairman, W. H. Coulter, secretary. A. B. Clark was nominated by acclamation. Opposed to him was J. D. McCue, as an independent candidate.

The Republican judicial convention was held at Weir City, September 11 and 12, 1894; John N. Ritter, of Cherokee county, was chairman and Wiley W. Cook, of Labette county, secretary. Two hundred and twenty ballots were cast for A. B. Clark, of Montgomery county, Nelson Case, of Labette county, and A. H. Skidmore, of Cherokee county, but with no result; Mr. Case then withdrew and the balloting proceeded, resulting in a tie between Mr. Clark and Mr. Skidmore; finally, on the 227th ballot, Mr. Skidmore received the nomination. Opposed to Mr. Skidmore, J. D. McCue, of Montgomery county, ran as an independent candidate, being generally supported by Democrats and Populists.

On June 11, 1898, both the People's party and the Democrats held conventions in Oswego, for the purpose of selecting a fusion candidate for district judge; of the People's party convention, Jasper Swan, of Montgomery county, was chairman, and W. W. Campbell, of Labette county, secretary, while J. H. Keith, of Montgomery county, and J. C. Eddy, of Cherokee county, were, respectively, chairman

and secretary of the Democratic convention. A conference committee decided to give the nomination to the Democrats. Thereupon, the Democratic convention nominated Thomas H. Stanford, of Montgomery county, over R. M. Cheshire, of Cherokee county, George S. King, of Labette county, and E. E. Sapp, of Cherokee county. Mr. Stanford's nomination was then indorsed by the Populist convention. The Republicans held their judicial convention in Oswego, July 12, 1898. A. L. Wilson, of Montgomery county, was chairman and J. W. Iden, of Labette county, secretary. A. H. Skidmore, of Cherokee county, was renominated by acclamation.

#### POLITICAL CONVENTIONS OF A MISCELLANEOUS CHARACTER.

##### FARMERS' CONVENTION.

A Farmers' convention was called for and was held on October 17, 1873, at Labette City. It was a secret session. The following nominations were made: Probate judge, Davis Vulgamore; sheriff, F. G. Burnett; treasurer, C. F. Smith; register, I. W. Patrick; county clerk, Sam. W. Collins; coroner, A. S. Spaulding; surveyor, S. R. Southwick; representatives, Forty-third district, J. L. Williams, Forty-fourth, Isaac Butterworth; commissioners, first district, D. J. Doolen, second, H. M. Debolt, third, William Thornborough.

##### GRANGE CONVENTION.

On October 10, 1874, a Grange convention met at Labette City, which soon divided into two sections: one elected N. Cooper, chairman, and C. W. Stephenson secretary, and denounced political action; the other elected J. J. Woods chairman and C. Merwin secretary, and nominated the following ticket: Senator

Fifteenth district, John F. Hill; probate judge, S. L. Coulter; clerk district court, H. C. Cook; superintendent, Mary A. Higby; representatives, Forty-third district, S. M. Canaday, Forty-fourth, Henry Tibbets.

##### "LABORING MEN'S CONVENTIONS."

One was held at Parsons, on September 20, 1875; B. D. Roberts was chairman part of the time, and Isaac Butterworth, a part; J. L. Williamson, secretary. The following ticket was nominated: Representatives, Forty-third district, M. W. Reynolds, Forty-fourth, F. B. McGill; treasurer, William Dick on third ballot over A. J. Cary, George Caldwell, and Fred Perkins; sheriff, Nixon Elliott on second ballot over W. C. Church, J. J. Freeman, and S. B. Abbott; register, R. C. Taylor; county clerk, L. C. Howard, by acclamation; coroner, D. B. Crouse, by acclamation; surveyor, Wade Prichard on first ballot over George Thornton; commissioners, first district, J. F. Hill, second, C. M. Monroe, third, J. H. Martin.

J. L. Williams was chairman of the central committee.

On October 9, 1877, at Keeler's school-house, a mass convention was held, of which Samuel Newell was chairman, and Newton Guymon, secretary. A ticket was nominated as follows: Treasurer, A. J. Cary; register, Wash Knapp; county clerk, T. A. Fellows; coroner, Dr. W. S. Newlon; surveyor, Wade Prichard; commissioner second district, H. M. Debolt.

##### "PEOPLE'S MASS CONVENTIONS."

A convention with the above title was held in the Methodist church in Mound Valley, on October 20, 1881; J. M. Cavaness was chairman, and T. C. Cory, secretary. The following ticket was nominated: Treasurer, A. J. Cary on first ballot over G. S. McDole; regis-

er, J. M. Cunningham on first ballot over J. W. Breidenthal and Thomas O'Hare. The Republican nominees for sheriff, county clerk, surveyor and coroner were indorsed.

Another "People's Mass Convention" was held on October 10, 1884, at Altamont; B. R. Van Meter was elected chairman and S. M. Bailey secretary, and the following nominations were made: Senator Ninth district, W. J. Conner, by acclamation; county attorney, H. G. Webb, by acclamation; clerk district court, C. L. Albin on first ballot over J. M. Cunningham; probate judge, J. M. Cunningham, by acclamation; superintendent public instruction, J. Covalt.

#### A "FARMERS' AND LABORERS' CONVENTION"

Was held at Altamont on August 20, 1886; A. M. Fellows was chairman, and J. W. Breidenthal, secretary. After electing delegates to the State convention and calling a county convention for Altamont on September 8th, it adjourned. On September 8th the convention met as per adjournment; J. J. McFeely was chairman, and J. W. Breidenthal, secretary. A ticket composed of the following was nominated: Superintendent, Alice Metier; probate judge, A. T. Shrout; county attorney, H. G. Webb; clerk district court, W. J. Millikin. A. M. Fellows was made chairman of the central committee, and R. S. Lybarger, secretary.

October 9, 1886, another "Farmers' and Laborers' Convention" met at Parsons, and nominated W. H. Utey as representative for the Twenty-eighth district.

#### ELECTIONS.

The rapid growth of the county is in a measure indicated by the increased vote cast from year to year. The first election held in

Neosho county was in 1864, at which there were but 35 votes cast in the whole county. At this time there was probably no one in what is now Labette county who had the legal qualifications of an elector, but had there been there was no provision made for the casting of votes. It was not until July, 1866, that the commissioners of Neosho county established voting precincts in what is now Labette county. Our citizens might have participated in the election in November, 1866, had they been disposed to do so, but as I have elsewhere stated, there was a mutual understanding between those residing in what is now Neosho county and those residing in what is now Labette county, that the latter would refrain from voting for the officers of Neosho county, and that at the ensuing session of the Legislature the county should be divided. However, at that election the people in the south half of the county voted for a full set of county officers for themselves. Of course this vote was without any legal significance. No record of the result was kept, and I have been unable to ascertain anything in reference to the number of votes cast. C. H. Bent, who was elected to the Legislature at this time, was the only officer elected who was permitted to perform official duties by virtue thereof. I might here state that at this election there were something over 300 votes cast in Neosho county. For state senator, J. W. Scott received 225 votes, and Willoughby Doudna received 82 votes. This is probably the average vote between the two parties in the county. The first legal election held in Labette county was on April, 22, 1867. At this election a full set of county officers were elected, to serve until the ensuing regular election in the fall; and the question of locating the county seat was also voted on. The record of the canvass of this vote has been lost, and I have



now no means of ascertaining the number of votes cast; but some time thereafter there was published what was said to be the correct vote on the question of locating the county seat, from which statement it appears that the entire vote cast on that subject was 380. This may fairly be presumed to be the total vote of the county at that time.

At the November election in 1867 the canvass does not show the total number of votes cast, nor the votes cast for each candidate, except for the office of judge of the district court. For this position N. F. Acres received 202 votes, and J. R. Goodin 192 votes. On the question of locating the county seat there were cast 397 votes. This was probably the highest number of votes cast at that election. At the election held November 3, 1868, each precinct in the county returned its vote. The presidential electors received 783 votes; 617 of which were cast for the Grant electors, and 166 for the Seymour electors. The candidates for the several State offices on the two tickets received substantially the same proportion of votes. The political lines were not as strictly drawn on the county offices.

On November 5, 1869, the board met to canvass the vote cast on the 2d of that month. For some informalities, which presented an excuse but did not amount to a reason for their action, the commissioners rejected the vote of every precinct in the county except those of Oswego and Hackberry. If it had required the rejection of either of these to enable them to count in the parties whom they desired to have elected, it may be presumed that on some pretense it would have been done. By the course pursued a set of officers were declared elected who had been overwhelmingly defeated at the polls, and those who had been elected by a large majority of the votes actually cast were

deprived of their positions, some of them for a year and some of them during their whole term. I do not mean to say that every officer declared elected had been defeated; no record has been preserved of the complete vote, and I have no means at hand of ascertaining what the vote of the entire county was; but certain it is that the sheriff, treasurer, register of deeds, and a part of the commissioners who were elected were compelled to contest for their offices or to be deprived of them entirely. Mr. McCue, who had been beaten for county attorney by a large majority, but who was declared elected, refused to qualify, and Mr. Waters, who had been elected but counted out, took the office without opposition. Some of those who had been counted out contested for the office, while others declined to go through the trouble and expense of litigation. After a protracted contest through all the courts, the true result was finally ascertained, and those who were determined to secure their rights even at a sacrifice, were finally awarded their offices.

At the November election in 1870 as many as 1,706 votes were cast for some of the positions, but generally the aggregate vote on any one office was a few short of 1,700. The Republican State ticket generally received about 1,025 to 1,050 votes, and the Democratic candidates about 640 to 660 votes; while on the county ticket the vote for the respective candidates of the two parties was more nearly equal.

In 1871 there were 1,794 votes cast for sheriff; of these G. W. Franklin, the Democratic candidate, received 959, and L. S. Crum, the Republican candidate, 835. I. W. Patrick, the Republican candidate for register of deeds, was elected by a majority of 150. In 1872 the Grant electors received 1,779 votes, and the

Greeley electors 1,014, making a total vote on the national ticket of 2,793. The candidates on the two tickets for State offices received substantially the same proportion of votes. In 1873 S. L. Coulter, the Republican candidate for probate judge, received 1,765 votes, while Davis Vulgamore, the Democratic candidate, received but 487. C. F. Smith, the Republican candidate for treasurer, had no opposition, and received 2,346. In 1874 the total vote was 2,076. For the office of governor, Thomas A. Osborn received 1,108 votes, James C. Cussey 730, and W. K. Marshall 77. In 1875 the total vote was 2,450. S. B. Abbott, Republican candidate for sheriff, received 1,252 votes, and Nixon Elliott, the Democratic candidate, 1,112. In 1876 the total vote was 3,529. The Hayes electors received 2,092, the Tilden electors, 1,372, the Cooper electors 8, and the Smith electors 17. In 1877 but 2,683 votes were cast. For chief justice, A. H. Horton, the Republican candidate, received 1,562; Samuel A. Riggs, the Greenback candidate, 824; and W. R. Wagstaff, the Democratic candidate, 253 votes. In 1878 the vote was 3,385. J. P. St. John, the Republican candidate for governor, received 1,594; J. R. Goodin, the Democratic candidate, 968; D. P. Mitchell, the Greenback candidate, 804. There were 3,102 votes cast in 1879. The Republican candidate for treasurer received 1,591; the Democratic candidate, 886; the Greenback candidate, 574. In 1880 the total vote was 4,672. The Garfield electors received 2,721; the Hancock electors, 1,462; and the Weaver electors, 420. In 1881 the vote was 3,163. The Republican candidate for treasurer received 1,340; the Democratic candidate, 1,311; the Greenback candidate, 474. In 1882 the vote was 4,020. For governor St. John received 1,941 votes, Glick 1,669, and Robinson 329. In 1883 there were 4,015 votes.

The Republican candidate for treasurer received 2,057, Democratic candidate 1,571, the Greenback candidate 242. In 1884 the Blaine electors received 3,475, the Cleveland electors 2,094, the Butler electors 316, and the St. John electors 149. In 1885 the vote was 3,763. The Republican candidate for treasurer received 2,378 votes, and the Democratic candidate 1,347. In 1886 the vote was 4,802. For governor, John A. Martin received 2,427 votes, Thomas Moonlight 2,195, and C. H. Branscomb 125. In 1887 there were 4,799 votes cast. For treasurer the Republican candidate received 1,903, the Union Labor candidate 2,448, and the Democratic candidate 417. This was the first election in the county in which the Republican party received a general defeat. Not infrequently, one or more of the opposition ticket had been elected, but at this election, with one exception, the entire Union Labor ticket was elected. In 1888 the vote was 6,072. The Harrison electors received 2,870 votes, the Cleveland electors 976, the Streeter electors 2,125, and the Fisk electors 85. In 1889 the vote was 4,733. The Republican candidate for treasurer received 2,120 votes, the Union Labor candidate 2,086, the Democratic candidate 507. In 1890 the vote was 5,555. For governor, Humphrey received 2,165 votes, Willits 2,434, Robinson 914, Richardson 21. In 1891 the vote was 5,125. For treasurer the Republican candidate received 2,333 votes, the People's party candidate 2,449, the Democratic candidate 275, the Prohibition candidate 40. In 1892 the total vote was 6,174. The Weaver electors received 3,116 votes, the Harrison electors 2,950, and the Bidwell electors 93. In 1893 there were 4,774 votes; most of the Republican ticket was elected, receiving about 2,150 votes, while the Populist candidates received about 2,020, the

Democratic 330, and the Prohibition 76. In 1894, of the 5,930 votes cast, the Republican candidate for governor received 2,817, the Populist 2,564, the Democratic 291, and the Prohibition 83. The vote on the county ticket did not greatly vary from this. In 1895 the vote was 4,972. The Republican candidate for sheriff received 2,546 votes, the Populist 2,103, the Democratic 289, and the Prohibition 109. In 1896 the Republican candidate for governor received 3,211, the Populist 3,648, the Prohibition 50, out of a total vote of 6,952. On the presidential ticket, the Middle-of-the-Road Populists polled 30 votes, the Nationalists 9, the Gold Democrats 18, the Prohibitionists 35, the Republicans 3,186, and the Democrats and Populists combined 3,669. Most of the Populist county ticket was elected. In 1897 the vote was 5,804. The Populists and Democrats had a majority of about 50 to 75 on most of the county ticket; the Republicans elected one or two candidates. In 1898 the vote of 6,075 was divided as follows on governor: the Republican candidate received 3,027 votes, the Populist 2,979, and the Prohibitionist 69. The county ticket was divided between the Republicans and Populists, majorities running to something like 100 on either side. In 1899 the Populists carried the election by about 500 majority. The total vote was 5,426. In 1900 there was a vote of 6,727. There were four presidential tickets voted for. The Republicans had about 3,300 votes, the Democrats about 3,400, the Prohibitionists 43, and the Socialists 18. The Republican candidate for governor had 3,169 votes, and the Populist 3,558. Most of the Populist county ticket was elected by less than 100 majority.

The result of the votes which I have given above in the several years fairly represents the

average strength of each of the parties. Especially in county matters the votes on different offices have varied quite largely, local and personal considerations entering into the result very much more than in State and national matters.

#### COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS.

On June 5, 1867, an order was made dividing the county into three districts as follows: District No. 1, townships 31 and 32, in range 21; District No. 2, townships 33 and 34, in range 21; District No. 3, the remainder of the county.

On July 7, 1870, a new division was made, and the several districts were constituted as follows: District No. 1, all of range 21; District No. 2, townships 33, 34, and 35, in all of the ranges west of range 21; District No. 3, townships 31 and 32, in all the ranges west of range 21. This division remained in operation until 1893.

It is evident that between these two divisions another one was made which does not appear of record; for at the November (1869) election the person elected from the first district resided in the second, and the person elected from the second district resided in the first, as the districts were constituted in 1867.

Under a new division made July 15, 1893, and which is still in operation, the county was divided as follows: the townships of Neosho, Montana, Oswego, Richland, Hackberry, Fairview and Liberty, and the cities of Oswego and Chetopa constitute the first commissioner district; the second district is composed of the townships of Mount Pleasant, Elm Grove, Howard, Canada, Mound Valley and Osage; the township of Labette, Walton and North, and the city of Parsons make up the third district.

## LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENT.

Labette county, without any bill making it such, was recognized as the Eighty-fifth representative district from 1867, when our first member was admitted, to 1871, when the next apportionment was made, at which time it was divided into two districts, the northern half constituting the Forty-third and the southern part the Forty-fourth. In this apportionment Elm Grove township was entirely left out of any district, and it was not until 1873 that it was made a part of the Forty-fourth district. We were a part of the Sixteenth senatorial district up to 1871, when we were made the Fifteenth district.

In the apportionment of 1876 we were continued as the Fifteenth senatorial district, and divided into three representative districts, the northern portion being the Forty-fourth, the central portion the Forty-fifth, and the southern portion the Forty-sixth district.

In 1881 we were made to constitute the Ninth senatorial district, and, commencing as before, on the north, the Thirty-third, Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth representative districts.

In the 1886 apportionment we were constituted the Tenth senatorial district, and the Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth representative districts, numbering from the north.

In 1891 the act of apportionment made us the Eleventh senatorial district, and gave us but two instead of three representatives, as we had theretofore had. The townships of Mound Valley, Osage, Walton, Labette, Liberty, North, Neosho and the city of Parsons, were made to constitute the Twenty-sixth representative district and the remainder of the county the Twenty-seventh district.

In 1897, no change was made in the sena-

torial districts. In the apportionment of the state into representative districts in that year, the townships of Mound Valley, Osage, Walton, Labette, Liberty, North, Neosho and the city of Parsons were made to constitute the Twenty-seventh representative district, and the balance of the county, the Twenty-eighth representative district.

## LIST OF OFFICERS.

JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT.—1867, William Spriggs; 1868-69, John R. Goodin; 1870, William C. Webb; 1870-73, Henry G. Webb; 1873-82, Bishop W. Perkins; 1883-89, George Chandler; 1889, John N. Ritter; 1890-94, Jerry D. McCue; 1895-1901, A. H. Skidmore.

STATE SENATOR.—1867-68, J. W. Scott; 1869-70, John C. Carpenter; 1871-72, Henry C. Whitney; 1873-76, J. H. Crichton; 1877-80, Angell Matthewson; 1881-84, W. B. Glasse; 1885-92, Charles H. Kimball; 1893-96, J. H. Reilly; 1897-1900, George Campbell; 1901, G. W. Gabriel.

REPRESENTATIVES.—*Eighty-fifth District*: 1867, Charles H. Bent; 1868, W. C. Watkins; 1869, Dr. D. D. McGrath (on account of sickness. Dr. McGrath did not take his seat in the Legislature); 1870, Walter P. Bishop; 1871, Dr. J. M. Mahr.—*Forty-third District*: 1872, J. J. Woods; 1873, W. W. Harper; 1874, J. L. Williams; 1875, J. J. Woods; 1876, M. W. Reynolds.—*Forty-fourth District*: 1872, D. C. Constant; 1873, W. H. Mapes; 1874, W. H. Mapes; 1875, R. W. Wright; 1876, H. G. Webb.—*Forty-fourth District*:\* 1877-78, G. W. Gabriel; 1879-80, J. H. Martin; 1881-82, J. B. Swart.—*Forty-fifth District*: 1877-78, F. A. Bettis; 1879-80, H. C. Blanchard; 1881-82,

\* This was the new Forty-fourth district, established by the apportionment of 1876.

J. B. Swart.—*Forty-fifth District*: 1877-78; F. A. Bettis; 1879-80, H. C. Blanchard; 1881-82, J. S. Waters.—*Forty-sixth District*: 1877-78, J. H. Hibbits; 1879-80, T. J. Calvin; 1881-82, T. J. Calvin.—*Thirty-third District*: 1883-84, G. W. Gabriel; 1885-86, David Kelso.—*Thirty-fourth District*: 1883-84, J. S. Waters; 1885-86, H. C. Cook.—*Thirty-fifth District*: 1883-84, J. H. Crichton; 1885-86, J. B. Cook.—*Twenty-eighth District*: 1887-88, F. R. Morton; 1889-90, W. W. Cranston; 1891-92, J. I. Tanner.—*Twenty-Ninth District*: 1887-88, J. H. Morrison; 1889-90, H. S. Coley; 1891-92, P. A. Morrison.—*Thirtieth District*: 1887-88, R. S. Lybarger; 1889-90, J. S. Hileman; 1891-92, Alex. Duncan.—*Twenty-sixth District*: 1893-94, J. L. Humphrey; 1895-96, D. M. Bender; 1897-98, Benjt. Johnson; 1893-94, P. A. Morrison; 1895-96, W. J. Lough; 1897-98, Charles R. Walters; 1899-1900, G. W. Gabriel; 1901, Grant Hume.—*Twenty-eighth District*: 1899-1900, Thomas J. Flannelly; 1901, M. I. Daviss.

PROBATE JUDGE.—The party who was elected April 22, 1867, failed to qualify in time. June 5, 1867, Bergen Van Ness was appointed, and reappointed July 3d; 1868, D. C. Lowe; January to September, 1869, Henry M. Minor; September to November, 1869, Merrit Read; November, 1869, to July, 1870, W. H. Whitlock; July to December, 1870, Walter P. Bishop; December, 1870, to March, 1873, B. W. Perkins; March, 1873, to July, 1880, S. L. Coulter; July, 1880, to January, 1885, Nelson Case; 1885-86, S. L. Coulter; 1887-90, T. J. Calvin; 1891-92, E. A. Richcreek; 1893-94, George Campbell; 1895-96, J. C. Richcreek; 1897-98, Daniel Pfaff; 1899-1900, Lewis W. Crain; 1901, W. C. Burns.

COUNTY ATTORNEY.—1867, W. J. Parkinson; 1868, C. H. Bent, W. P. Bishop; 1869,

W. P. Bishop, B. W. Perkins (J. D. McCue and J. H. Gunn, special county attorney); 1870-72, J. S. Waters; 1873-74, E. C. Ward; 1875-76, Willard Davis; 1877-80, J. S. Waters; 1881-82, Lewis C. True; 1883-84, George S. King; 1885-86, J. D. Conderman; 1887-88, T. C. Cory; 1888, A. A. Osgood; 1889-90, John H. Morrison; 1891-92, Joseph R. Hill; May 20 to Nov. 12, 1892, Frank H. Atchinson; 1893-94, M. E. Williams; 1895-96, Albert B. Switzer; 1897-1900, Frank Brady; 1901-, W. S. Hyatt.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.—1867, John F. Newlon; 1868, Enos Reed; 1869-1870, R. J. Elliott; 1871-72, J. W. Horner; 1873-78, Mary A. Higby; 1879-80, J. Covalt; 1881-82, M. Chidester; 1883-86, Mrs. Anna C. Baker; 1887-88, Mrs. Anna Hickenbottom; 1889-90, Miss Agnes Beaty; 1891-94, Mrs. Lucy Best; 1895-96, Mrs. Ida Martin; 1897-98, Mrs. Hattie Ham; 1899-1900, Annie S. Arnold; 1901-, Mrs. Kate Southwick.

REGISTER OF DEEDS.—1867, Elza Craft; 1868-69, Charles Beggs; 1870-71, James W. Peace; 1872-81, I. W. Patrick; 1882-83, J. M. Cunningham; 1884-87, Asa Smith; 1888-89, J. K. Russell; 1890-91, J. A. Flora; 1892-93, Andrew W. Mackie; 1894-97, H. H. Graue; 1898-, A. D. Swanwick.

SHERIFF.—1867, Benjamin A. Rice; 1868 to April 5, 1869, John N. Watson; 1869, Frank D. Howe; 1870, John T. Weaver; October, 1870-71, Joseph C. Wilson; 1872-75, G. W. Franklin; 1876-77, S. B. Abbott; 1878-79, J. H. Macon; 1880-83, D. M. Bender; 1884-85, Jonas T. Lampson; 1886-87, C. B. Woodford; 1888-89, Jonas T. Lampson; 1890-93, William Cook; 1894-97, John W. Bennett; 1898-, A. F. Edwards.

COUNTY SURVEYOR.—1867, Z. Harris; 1868 to April 5, 1869, S. R. Southwick; April



5, 1869, to 1871, E. G. Davidson; 1872-73, Wade H. Prichard; 1874-75, Samuel Terrill; 1876-77, Wade H. Prichard; 1878-79, George Thornton; 1880-81, J. M. Wells; resigned in September, 1881, and B. R. Cunningham was appointed; 1881-85, B. R. Cunningham; 1886-87, W. W. Dentler; 1888-89, C. C. Robbins; 1890-91, J. W. Boggess; 1892-93, A. B. Bushnell; 1894-97, E. P. Bayless; 1898-99, A. B. Bushnell; 1900, E. P. Bayless.

COUNTY ASSESSOR.—April 22, 1867, Francis Wall elected, but failed to qualify; A. W. Jones appointed; 1868, J. R. Morrison.

CLERK DISTRICT COURT.—1867-68, R. S. Cornish; 1869-70, Robert Steel; 1871-72, D. S. Morrison; 1873-74, R. J. Elliott; 1875-84, H. C. Cook; 1885-88, E. B. Baldwin; 1889-90, Colin Hodge; 1891-92, J. A. Jones; 1893-96, Elmer C. Clark; 1897-1900, John Mayer; 1901-, J. W. Weaver.

COUNTY TREASURER.—April to September, 1867, C. C. Clover; September 3, 1867, James C. Watson appointed, but failed to qualify; October, 1867, to July, 1868, R. M. Bennett; 1868-69, Henry C. Bridgman; January to October, 1870, Wm. Logan; 1870-72, Henry C. Bridgman; 1872-76, Charles F. Smith; 1876-80, George M. Caldwell; 1880-82, George Thornton; 1882-84, Geo. M. Caldwell; 1884-88, C. W. Littleton; 1888-90, W. H. Porter; 1890-92, William Slaughter; 1892-94, Martin V. Davis; 1894 to November 21, 1895, when he resigned, J. R. Monroe,—his term was filled out by H. S. Atwood, who was appointed November 21, 1895, and served until October 13, 1896; 1896-98, E. W. Minturn; 1898-, David Jennings.

COUNTY CLERK.—March to July, 1867, Austin T. Dickerman; July to December, 1867, D. W. Clover; January to November, 1868, Charles E. Simons; November 20, 1868, to

January 6, 1869, Charles C. Beggs; January 6 to November, 1869, John D. Coulter; November, 1869-79, L. C. Howard; 1880-81, W. H. Keirsey; 1882-85, Frank W. Felt; 1886-87, W. W. Cook; 1888-89, W. J. Millikin; 1890-91, Geo. W. Tilton; 1892-93, D. H. Martin; 1894-97, J. F. Thompson; 1898-, E. H. Hughes.

AUDITOR.—W. A. Starr, July 14, 1882, to his death, December 14, 1883; W. B. Glasse, March 4, 1884-88; George S. King, January 3 to November 27, 1891.

HEALTH OFFICER.—June 1, 1885, to April 13, 1891, Elmer E. Liggett; April 13, 1891-92, L. T. Strother; 1893-95, E. Tanner; 1896, C. Rockhold; 1897, A. B. Temple; 1898, George S. Liggett; 1899, A. B. Temple; 1900, E. Tanner; 1901, T. B. Allison.

CORONER.—1867-69, George W. Kingsbury; 1870-71, J. H. Logan; 1872, J. F. Newlon; 1873, William Pinkerton; 1874-77, D. B. Crouse; 1878-79, W. R. Moore; 1880-81, W. W. English; 1881-82, Lewis Peterson, who resigned in 1882, and P. Davis was appointed; 1883-87, E. W. Dorsey; 1888-89, A. A. Clardy; 1890-91, T. J. Finley; 1892-93, J. H. Miller; 1894-95, T. J. Finley; 1892-97, J. W. French; 1898, William Roe, who died before his term of office expired.—D. N. Mathews was appointed April 30, 1898, to fill the term until the next general election; 1899, J. W. French, elected to fill William Roe's unexpired term; 1900-, G. W. Smith.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.—March 10, 1867, Governor Crawford appointed Samuel W. Collins, Charles H. Talbott and Bergen Van Ness commissioners to organize the county. April 22, 1867, William Shay, David C. Lowe and Nathan Ames were elected; Mr. Shay failing to qualify, John G. Rice was appointed in his place, 1868, 1st, William Logan; to



2d, Isaac Butterworth; 3d, James F. Molesworth. 1869, 1st. William Logan; 2d, Elisha Hammer; 3d, James F. Molesworth.

Subsequent to 1869 the commissioners were as follows: *First District*: 1870, William Steel; 1871, Gilbert Martin; 1872-77, D. J. Doolen; 1878, H. S. Coley; 1879-81, D. J. Doolen; 1882-84, W. G. Hoover; 1885-90, D. A. Jones; 1891-93, Gilbert A. Cooper; 1894-96, D. U. Watson; 1897-, D. S. Romine.—*Second District*: 1870-71, J. W. Morey; November, 1871, Abner De Cou was elected, but died before taking his seat; February 10, 1872-73, George Poland; 1874-75, H. M. Debolt; 1876-77, C. Leib; 1878-79, H. M. Debolt; 1880-82, A. N. Russell; 1883-84, M. Breidenthal; April 5, 1884, Mr. Breidenthal died, and E. B. Baldwin was appointed in his place, and served from April 18 to December 3, 1884; December 3, 1884-88, Lewis Goodwin; 1889-1894, Milo Hildreth; 1895-97, J. C. Goodell; 1898-, Philip Gers.—*Third District*: November 3, 1869, J. P. Hutton declared elected, but died before qualifying; July 7, 1870, W. H. Carpenter was appointed; November, 1870, J. M. Richardson was elected, but Carpenter claimed there was no vacancy, and Richardson never took his seat; W. H. Carpenter continued to serve until the following November election; November, 1871-73, William Dick; 1874-77, W. A. Starr; 1878-80, P. W. Shick; 1881-83, J. J. Henderson; 1884-89, J. E. Brooks; 1890-92, J. W. Scott; 1893-05, J. A. Jarboe; 1896-98, G. W. Gabriel; 1898-, R. D. Talbot.

*List and Terms of Chairmen of Board of County Commissioners.*—1867, David C. Lowe; 1868, William Logan; 1869, James F. Molesworth; 1870, William Steel; November 14, 1870, to January 12, 1871, J. W. Morey; 1871, W. H. Carpenter; November, 1871, to

January 1872, J. W. Morey; 1872-73, William Dick; 1874-77, D. J. Doolen; 1878, H. S. Coley; 1879-81, D. J. Doolen; 1882-83, J. J. Henderson; 1884, W. G. Hoover; 1885-86, I. E. Brooks; 1887, D. A. Jones; 1888-89, J. E. Brooks; 1890, D. A. Jones; 1891-92, Milo Hildreth; 1893, Gilbert A. Cooper; 1894, Milo Hildreth; 1895, J. A. Jarboe; 1896, D. U. Watson; 1897, J. C. Goodell; 1898, G. W. Gabriel; 1899, D. S. Romine; 1900, Philip Gers; 1901, R. D. Talbot.

### COUNTY DEPOSITORY.

October 10, 1882, to July 11, 1891, bank of C. M. Condon; July 11, 1891, First National Bank of Oswego up to \$50,000, and Oswego State Bank for amounts beyond what the National Bank was to have. There have since been changes, the Parsons banks, as well as those in Oswego being made depositories.

### LIST OF OFFICIAL PAPERS.

1868, January 14th, proceedings ordered published in *Humboldt Union*; subsequently the *Neosho Valley Eagle* was established at Jacksonville and did a part of the county printing; later the *Oswego Register* was established and did most of the county printing; 1869, *Register*; 1870, *Register*; 1871, *Advance and Register*; 1872, *Advance*; 1873, *Advance*; 1874, *Independent*; 1875, *Register*, during year transferred to *Independent*; 1876, *Herald*; 1877, *Independent*; 1878, *Independent*; 1879, *Independent*; 1880, *Democrat*; 1881, *Independent*; 1882, *Independent*; 1883, *Independent*; 1884, *Republican*; 1885, *Independent*; 1886, *Independent and Democrat*; 1887, *Bee and Sun*; 1888, *Bee and Sun*; 1889, *Independent and Sun*; 1890, *Independent and Sun*;

1891, on January 9th the *Independent* was designated as the official paper; this order was revoked on February 9th, and an order made that *Mills' Weekly World* be the official paper, and on February 10th this order was revoked and another one made designating the Labette County *Statesman* as the official paper; 1892-

October 2, 1893, *Mills' Weekly World*; October 2, 1893-January 8, 1894. Labette County *Times-Statesman*; January 8, 1894-January 14, 1896, Parsons *Independent*; January 14, 1896-February 3, 1897, Parsons *Eclipse*; February 3, 1897-, Oswego *Blade*.

## THE STRUGGLE FOR TEMPERANCE

---

The license system was not put in operation in this county without a vigorous opposition on the part of the temperance people. So far as I can ascertain, the first attempt to obtain license to sell liquor in this county was in the summer or fall of 1867, when J. Q. Cowell, who was running a small drug store in Oswego, got a sufficiently signed petition to authorize the issuance of a license; but before it was presented to the board, H. C. Bridgman, who was conducting a general store next to his, in some way got possession of the petition and destroyed it. This seems to have been the last attempt made by Cowell to get a license, but probably not the last attempt to sell liquor. The sales, however, if made, were without any authority of law.

Some time after this transaction John R. Clover got a petition containing sufficient signatures to authorize a license to be issued to him, but Mrs. Augusta Herbaugh managed to get possession of it, and it suffered a fate similar to Mr. Cowell's.

### THE FIRST LICENSED SALOON

In the county was kept at the northwest corner of block 39, in Oswego, by Jones & Stewart, who on January 11, 1868, presented to the board of county commissioners a petition said to contain the names of a majority of the residents of Oswego township, asking that a license to sell liquor be granted to them. The

board granted this petition, and directed the clerk to issue license for one year, upon the payment by said Jones & Stewart of the sum of \$50. This firm soon sold out to H. E. Porter and A. J. DeCou, the latter of whom in a few weeks sold his interest to his partner, and thereafter Mr. Porter ran the business alone. This saloon had been running less than seven months, when, on the night of August 6th, J. C. Wheeler and Charles Van Alstine, with several more persons, spent the evening there in drinking and carousing until after midnight. Van Alstine and Wheeler got into a dispute over the question of indebtedness of the latter to the former, and after leaving the saloon, under the influence of liquor, remained by the side of the building disputing for some time, until all the other parties had gone away, and H. E. Porter, the bar-keeper, had closed the door. The next morning Wheeler was found by the saloon unconscious, his head bruised by blows from a club, from which he soon thereafter died. Van Alstine was arrested, and at the next term of court was convicted of murder in the second degree and sentenced to the penitentiary for ten years. I am informed that his family was left to be provided for by the public, as was also the family of Wheeler. Subsequently the commissioners paid the expense of sending Wheeler's children back to their friends in Ohio. The cost to the county of convicting and sending Van

Alstine to the penitentiary, and caring for the destitute families of the murderer and his victim, is said to have been over \$2,000. Comparing this sum paid out of the public treasury, for a matter which may fairly be said to be traceable directly to the saloon as its cause, with the paltry sum of \$50 paid into the county treasury for the saloon license, the transaction would not look like a very profitable one for the public to engage in.

The next party authorized by the board to make drunkards according to law was William B. Gregory, who on May 16, 1868, presented to the board a petition signed by 182 citizens of Richland township, asking that he be granted a dramshop license for said township. Whereupon the board ordered that, upon the payment of \$100 into the county treasury, license be granted him for one year from that date. The last action of the board preceding their granting Gregory license to keep a saloon was their appointment of him to the office of constable of said township.

The practical workings of this licensed saloon do not seem to have been altogether satisfactory to the people of Chetopa. On February 9, 1869, a large temperance meeting was held at Spaulding's hall, at which stirring temperance speeches were made by a number of citizens, and also by Rev. C. R. Rice, who had remained over a day or two after his quarterly meeting. Strong resolutions were passed denouncing those who were disgracing the town with their drunkenness, and calling upon the officers to see that the law was enforced. Temperance meetings were frequently held subsequently to this, and a temperance organization was effected. About the same time attempts were made by other parties to obtain license, but with less success.

On July 21, 1868, a petition dated July 6,

1868, was presented to the board, asking them "to grant Charles Sipes a license to keep a grocery and first-class billiard saloon" in Oswego; whereupon, "the board having considered said petition, and being satisfied that said petition is not made by a majority of the residents in said township as the law requires, and that the masses of the citizens are opposed to the granting of dramshop license in said township, as evidenced by the remonstrance presented to this board, therefore said petition is not granted." On the same day the record shows that W. S. Newlon presented to the board the following petition:

*"To the County Board of Labette County, Kansas:* The undersigned, residents of Oswego township, over the age of 21 years, respectfully ask you not to grant license to establish a dramshop at Oswego at your next meeting."

And then follows their action thereon:

"And the board having duly considered the same, do and it is hereby ordered that the board will not bind or circumscribe its powers, but will endeavor to act at all times and upon all subjects according to law and justice. Wherefore, said petition is not granted."

There seems to have been no other saloon license granted until January 7, 1869, when John R. Clover and H. H. Stanley were granted a license on a petition said to contain the names of a majority of the citizens of Oswego township. The record shows that Commissioner Molesworth voted to fix the amount charged for the license at \$500, but that Commissioners Logan and Butterworth agreed to charge but \$100 therefor. A year thereafter these parties had their license renewed by the commissioners, at the same price.

After 1870, Oswego and Chetopa being organized under city government, the man-

ner of regulating the sale of liquor in these places passed from the board of county commissioners to that of the city council. The jurisdiction of the commissioners was confined to the rest of the county.

The first record which I have found of a license being applied for outside of Richland and Oswego townships was that of Thomas Phillips to keep a saloon in Montana; this was at the meeting of the board in January, 1872. A remonstrance was also presented, and the license was refused. However, at their meeting in July of the same year the board granted a license to William T. Trapp, for a fee of \$150. This was not the first saloon, however, that was kept in Montana. Several parties at different times were engaged in the saloon business who conducted it in defiance of law.

At the January, 1874, meeting of the board, two saloons were authorized to be licensed in Montana, at a fee of \$100 each—one to be kept by Edward Wilcox, and the other by William T. Trapp and Andrew Dixon.

On February 2, 1875, J. S. Waters presented the petition of himself and 168 others, asking that license be granted to Andrew Dixon, and on the same day the petition was granted, the fee to be charged therefor to be \$300; but soon thereafter Mr. Waters appeared before the commissioners and recommended that the fee be but \$100. On consideration, the board finally fixed the fee at \$200. In 1876 Dixon's license was again renewed, the fee charged this time being but \$100. It was not long after its renewal until Mrs. Waters appeared before the board and showed that some of the names on the petition for license were not legal petitioners, and she succeeded in getting the board to make an order revoking the license. At the next meeting, however, Mr. Dixon appeared with his attorney before the

board, and by making them believe that they had no authority to revoke a license once granted, induced them to rescind their former action and leave his license in force.

It was not long after the town of Labette was started until saloons were opened and run without the sanction of law, and yet without receiving any great amount of molestation from the law officers.

During 1872 and 1873 there was little organized effort at any place in the county to prevent the obtaining of license, or for the purpose of seeing that the law against illegal sales was practically enforced. Some temperance meetings were held, and some protests were made by the temperance people, but nothing very effective was done.

### THE CRUSADE SPIRIT.

The spring and summer of 1874 was one of the most exciting times upon the temperance question that had ever been known in the county. The spirit of the "crusaders," which in many places in the East had led the women to make raids on the saloons and pour liquor into the gutter, manifested itself in this county in a milder but scarcely less determined form. No saloons were raided, but in Oswego the women held prayer meetings in the churches, and visited the saloons and requested the proprietors to give up their business. Of course these requests were not complied with. But the ladies' organization was kept up, the entire city was thoroughly canvassed, immense petitions were secured praying the council to issue no license at all, and demanding that the law, requiring a petition of a majority of the residents of the ward to be presented before a license should be issued, should be enforced. At that time the law of the State required a

petition of a majority of the residents of the township or ward, male and female, to be presented requesting such action before any dramshop license could be granted, but provided that the mayor and council of cities of the first and second class might, by ordinance, dispense with such petition. At the request of the ladies the mayor called a special meeting of the council, which was held on May 4, 1874, at which time a large delegation of ladies appeared before the council and presented their petitions, and had several arguments made in favor of carrying out the spirit expressed therein. Prior to this no ordinance had been passed dispensing with the necessity of a petition, but the council had entirely disregarded the law requiring a petition, and had uniformly granted license on the simple petition of the applicant himself. It now being apparent that such action would not be tolerated, at the close of the argument in favor of granting the ladies' petition, a motion was made instructing the committee to prepare and present an ordinance to dispense with the necessity of a petition by a majority of the residents of the ward, as they were authorized to do by statute. The vote on the passage of this motion resulted in a tie of the council, and the mayor gave the casting vote in opposition thereto, thus establishing the rule that licensed saloons could not exist in any ward until a majority of the adult residents, thereof, male and female, should petition therefor. For this action the mayor received a vote of thanks from the ladies' association.

Less than a week later another meeting of the council was called, at which an ordinance dispensing with the necessity for a petition containing the names of a majority of the residents of the ward before a license could be granted was introduced, and on motion to adopt the same the vote of the council, as at

the previous meeting, stood a tie, and the mayor gave the casting vote in favor of its passage, and thereby inaugurated the policy in the form of law, which since the incorporation of the city had been practiced in defiance of law, of allowing the mayor and council to grant license without an express wish of the people therefor. This action on the part of the mayor and council created great excitement. A public meeting was immediately called, and strong resolutions of disapprobation of this action were unanimously passed. Temperance meetings continued to be held and public sentiment aroused.

At the time Oswego was having this earnest action, rousing temperance meetings were held weekly at Parsons, and were addressed by leading and influential citizens, as well as by the clergy. A little later, similar steps were taken at Chetopa. Public meetings were held and speeches made disapproving the licensing of saloons, and petitions were circulated and largely signed asking the council to grant no license until petitioned for by a majority of the residents of the ward as required by law. These petitions, however, were unavailing, and at the close of the month a large number of saloons were licensed over the earnest protest of the temperance people.

The temperance people were now intent on preventing the issuance of license in the cities unless the same were petitioned for by a majority of the residents of the ward; and at the county temperance convention held on October 6, 1874, on motion of Nelson Case it was unanimously—

"Resolved, That we are in favor of the immediate repeal of the *proviso* of section 1 of the dramshop act, and request our entire delegation in the Legislature to use their utmost exertions to secure such result."



Early in 1874 a party decided it would be a profitable thing to open a saloon in Mound Valley, and set about obtaining a petition asking the commissioners to grant him a license for that purpose. As soon as this was known a public meeting was called and held at the school-house, on February 2d, and rousing temperance speeches were made, and a determination expressed that no saloon should be opened in that place. A remonstrance was circulated, and a large majority of the people signed the same. During the winter of 1873-74 the temperance sentiment in Chetopa was sustained by the maintenance of the weekly temperance literary society, in which a temperance paper was read, temperance debates were had, and all phases of the question were discussed. Nearly all of the temperance workers in the place took part in this society.

#### REFORM CLUB.

On July 8, 1877, quite a number of the men of Oswego who were in the habit of indulging somewhat freely in intoxicating liquors organized themselves into a reform club, with William Wells as president and L. C. Howard as secretary. The purpose of the club was to assist its members either in abstaining altogether from the use of liquor, or to abstain therefrom excepting under certain conditions.

#### BREWERIES.

As early as 1870 Max Muehlschuster started a brewery on the Neosho river at Chetopa, and soon opened in connection therewith a beer garden on the east side of the river. These were conducted by him until his death, in July, 1871.

In 1870 a building for a brewery was erect-

ed in the north edge of Oswego by John Seiber and Edward Eckle, but on account of financial embarrassment on the part of the proprietors it was never put in operation.

Early in 1873 John Apperger commenced the construction of a brewery just on the brow of the hill in the east part of Oswego, south of the section-line road running to Columbus, which was dedicated by a free-beer frolic on Sunday, April 21, 1873. Apperger ran the brewery for some four years, but finally, in November, 1877, it was closed by the collector of internal revenue for illicit transactions, and soon thereafter Apperger moved away.

#### MURPHY MEETINGS.

Murphy meetings in the county commenced in Oswego, where, about the 1st of October, 1877, a series of meetings was begun in the Methodist church, under the general direction of the pastor, which were kept up nightly for quite a length of time, and at which nearly all of the citizens who at any time spoke in public, as well as persons from abroad, made speeches. Miss Amanda Way was present on one or two occasions. The meetings resulted in securing the signatures of over 500 of the citizens to the Murphy pledge. At its close steps were taken for opening a library and reading-room.

Soon after the opening of the meetings in Oswego a series of meetings was held at Chetopa, conducted by Mrs. S. A. Williams, which resulted in securing something like 600 signatures to the Murphy pledge.

About the same time similar meetings were conducted at Parsons by Miss Amanda Way, at which about 800 parties took the Murphy pledge. Steps were taken at the close of these meetings looking to the opening of a free reading-room.

During that winter Murphy meetings were held in a large number of the school-houses throughout the county, especially in the southern part. T. J. Calvin took a leading part in getting them started, and provided for their being frequently conducted. From these temperance meetings organizations were secured in the Baylor school-house, with W. G. Baylor as president, and in the Lockard school-house, with A. B. Hammer as president. At Montana during the same period, Murphy meetings were scarcely less successful than at either of the other points in the county. The whole neighborhood was thoroughly aroused, and a very large proportion of the people took the pledge.

#### DISPENSING WITH PETITION.

On May 28, 1877, the city council of Parsons by unanimous vote passed an ordinance requiring the presentation of a petition of a majority of the residents of a ward in order to obtain a license. The mayor, however, vetoed this ordinance, and the council declined to pass it over his veto. The strong argument against the passage of the ordinance seemed to be that thereby some of the nine saloons then running in the city would not be able to procure the necessary petition, and the city would thereby be deprived of the \$200 fee charged therefor. A public meeting was had, at which a vote of thanks was tendered the three councilmen who voted for the passage of the ordinance notwithstanding the mayor's veto.

Following up the Murphy movement in Oswego, petitions were presented to the council requesting the repeal of the ordinance dispensing with the necessity of petition, in compliance with which the council did, on November 2, 1877, repeal the ordinance on that subject, and thereby made it practically certain that licensed

saloons must cease with the last of the year, for with the sentiment as it then existed, there was no probability of anyone obtaining a sufficient petition to entitle the council to grant license, were they so disposed. On the 1st of January, 1878, Oswego for the first time since the granting of the first license ten years before, was without a licensed saloon; nor did she have one running during the next three months. In February, 1878, C. B. Woodford presented a petition sufficiently signed to authorize the council to issue a license, provided they had chosen to issue it, for the purpose of selling "spirituous, vinous, and malt liquors in this city for medical, culinary, sacramental and mechanical purposes." Signatures to this petition were obtained on the theory that it was not for the purpose of securing license to open a saloon, but only for the sale of liquor for the purposes therein named. However, the council refused to grant the petition, and passed a preamble and a resolution that no license would be issued until after the people had had an opportunity to express themselves at the polls whether they desired license to be restored. At the city election the only question was whether or not a mayor and council should be elected in favor of granting license, and the people decided in favor of license by a majority of more than 100. Of course with such a verdict in favor of a change of policy from that which had been pursued for the three months past, the council was not long in granting licenses to those who had been anxiously waiting for an opportunity to open saloons, and from this time on until the State prohibitory law went into effect Oswego was able to furnish those who wished to buy, all the liquor they needed, not only for "culinary and medicinal," but also for *intoxicating* purposes.

On January 1, 1878, in compliance with request of a petition very largely signed by the citizens of Chetopa, the mayor and council of that city unanimously passed an ordinance repealing the ordinance then in force dispensing with petition, thereby making it incumbent on the applicant for license to get a majority of the ward, male and female, to petition therefor before he could obtain license to sell liquor. It was supposed that this would be sufficient to do away with saloons in that town. However, just one week thereafter a petition of the residents of the First Ward was presented to the council, containing the requisite number of signatures, and a saloon was duly licensed. From that time the temperance war was carried on in earnest. Public meetings were frequently held, and every step possible taken to consolidate the sentiment in favor of no-license. This was the direct issue at the city election in April, 1878, and by a small majority the temperance people succeeded in electing officers opposed to the issuance of any license. At the expiration of the licenses then in existence, on June 30, legalized saloons ceased in Chetopa, and were not again introduced. In the spring of 1879 little interest was taken in the election, and the result was that one license councilman was elected, which made the council stand a tie. Soon thereafter, petitions were circulated to secure signatures asking that license again be granted. A vacancy soon occurred in the city council; a special election resulted in the election of a temperance man, which again gave a clear majority of the council opposed to license, and thereby, as was supposed, determined the matter of saloons for another year. But later in the season further efforts were made by the liquor men to obtain license, and by direction of the council the mayor called a special election, to be held

on September 23, 1879, of all persons of lawful age, both male and female, to determine by ballot whether or not the council should grant dramshop license. The vote was taken, resulting in 66 men and 113 women voting against the license, and not one vote in favor thereof. Prior to the election in April, 1880, a vigorous effort was made to arouse the temperance sentiment both in the town and surrounding country. Petitions were sent out to secure the signatures of farmers who preferred to trade in a temperance town, and of course a vast majority of them signed it. The election, however, resulted in the choice of one councilman opposed to license and one in favor, thereby making the council a tie upon that question.

#### TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

##### I. O. G. T.

OSWEGO.—The first lodge of this order established in the county was organized at Oswego on November 14, 1869. Several temperance workers, feeling the necessity for something being done to save young men from drunkenness, applied to the officers of the grand lodge for a charter. J. J. Browne was appointed deputy to institute the lodge; Nelson Case was elected W. C. T., and A. B. Close, W. S. After some years this lodge became somewhat disorganized. On May 10, 1876, a district Good Templars' meeting was held at the Congregational church in Oswego, at which steps were taken to reorganize a lodge at this place. A number of persons signified their willingness to go into such an organization, and a lodge was soon thereafter instituted, which, with more or less regularity, maintained its existence until June, 1882, when, prohibition having been adopted, its members

deemed it unwise longer to continue its operation, and it was suspended. The money in the treasury, amounting to \$30, was donated to the library association.

**CHETOPA.**—The second lodge formed in the county was organized at Chetopa, where, by the aid of the members from the Oswego lodge, one was instituted on January 24, 1870, with G. L. Courtney as W. C. T., and S. T. Beck, W. S. With some interruptions a lodge was maintained at Chetopa as late as 1877. Lodges were had at one time at Montana, the Lockard school-house, the Brees school-house, and probably at other points in the county. None of these were of very long duration.

**MOUND VALLEY.**—On October 10, 1877, under the leadership of Mrs. Williams, a grand lodge deputy, a lodge was instituted at Mound Valley, and was maintained for some eight years, when it became disorganized. Robert R. Coleman was its first W. C. T., and he and his family were active workers during the history of the lodge. November 2, 1885, a re-organization was had, and the lodge from this time was maintained regularly till May 9, 1887, when it was again discontinued. Very much of the temperance sentiment of Mound Valley may be ascribed to the principles instilled into the minds of the young, and to the correct temperance education given in this lodge.

**PARSONS.**—On November 12, 1874, through the instrumentality of Rev. J. P. Hight, a lodge was organized with M. G. Brown as W. C. T.; Mrs. M. M. Hill, W. V. T.; Jas. Grimes, W. S.; M. Johnson, W. T. With slight interruptions the lodge maintained its organization until the adoption of the prohibitory amendment, after which time it was allowed to die. Mr. Grimes, who was the first secretary of this lodge, afterward became quite prominent in the order, being at one time sec-

retary and afterward G. W. C. T. of the grand lodge of the State, and several times represented the State in the R. W. G. lodge.

#### C. T. U.

In 1877 local organizations of the Christian Temperance Union were formed at two or three places in the county. On October 25th one was formed at Chetopa, with T. J. Calvin, president, and J. M. Cavaness, secretary. Sometime that fall or winter one was formed at Oswego, and one also existed at Montana. On March 20, 1878, a county union was formed, with H. G. Webb, president; Mary A. Higby, secretary; Robert L. Curl, treasurer; and J. S. Waters, organizer.

**LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS.**—The illegal sale of liquor in Altamont, resulting in the repeated and continued intoxication of several men, became so unbearable that in July, 1884, there was organized the Ladies' Temperance Alliance, with Mrs. Lizzie Hughes as president. This organization did much good in creating a public sentiment in favor of putting a stop to the illegal sale of liquor, and inducing those who were drinking to refrain therefrom.

In 1883 the ladies of Mound Valley maintained a local union which rendered efficient aid to the cause in the way of encouraging and aiding those who were engaged in securing the enforcement of the law.

The Oswego Temperance Union was formed in January, 1880, and under its management the entire city was canvassed for signers to a pledge against the use of liquor and also against aiding in securing a license for a saloon.

#### W. C. T. U.

On November 16, 1883, a union was organized in Chetopa by Mrs. Drusilla Wilson.

Mrs. Julia R. Knight was elected president; Miss Agnes Baty, recording secretary; Mrs. Nancy Anderson, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Isabel Cavaness, treasurer. About July 28, 1880, a union was formed at Parsons, with Mrs. A. Nealy, secretary. On March 5, 1885, Mrs. M. E. Griffith, State organizer, held a week's meeting at Mound Valley, and at its close organized a union. After continuing its operation for a few months this organization became disbanded, but on August 10, 1886, it was reorganized, with Mrs. E. A. West, president, and Mrs. H. Beggs, secretary. This union still maintains a vigorous organization.

On March 2, 1885, a union was formed at Oswego, with Mrs. E. Elliott, president and Mrs. Lydia A. Baldwin, secretary. Among the other ladies who were associated with them in this work were Mrs. Augusta Herbaugh, Mrs. Mary E. Case, Mrs. Sallie J. Stonecipher and Mrs. M. L. Newlon.

#### COUNTY UNION.

In March, 1886, delegates from the several unions in the county met and organized a county union, electing Mrs. Z. L. Janes, of Parsons, president, and Mrs. E. A. West, of Mound Valley, secretary. Mrs. West was re-elected secretary in 1887 and 1888. In 1887 Mrs. E. W. Ross was elected president, and Miss M. E. Scott, in 1888. Mrs. Hattie A. Coleman was first elected secretary in 1889.

#### THE PROHIBITION CANVASS.

Early in 1880 steps were taken by the temperance people of the county to thoroughly present the claims of the pending constitutional amendment, to prohibit the sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquors, to the intelli-

gent and conscientious consideration of the electors of the county. In August, 1880, Mrs. Lang lectured at Chetopa, at the close of which a prohibition society was formed, which soon hereafter adopted a constitution, and elected C. H. McCreery, president, and F. D. Allen, secretary. In Elm Grove township a healthy prohibition club was organized early in September, with the avowed intention of thoroughly canvassing the township. In the same month a series of meetings lasting over a week was held at Oswego, at which E. B. Reynolds, of Indiana, and Col. C. N. Golding were the principal speakers. During that fall nearly all of the prominent workers in the county were engaged more or less in canvassing for the amendment. The cause was aided very materially by prominent workers from abroad, among whom in addition to those above named, may be mentioned Gov. St. John, Judge Layton, Frank J. Sibley, and George W. Bain. The result of the effort was, that at the election in November 2,082 votes were polled for the amendment and 2,123 against it. While the friends of temperance had hoped to have a majority in favor of prohibition, they felt quite well satisfied that the result was so small a majority against it. The constitutional amendment having been adopted in the State, and the law for its enforcement having gone into effect on May 1, 1881, it was not long until most of the saloons were closed. A few held out with the idea that the law would not be enforced, but the majority in that business preferred to transfer their operations to more favorable fields.

#### FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

On May 1, 1882, the temperance people of the county celebrated the first anniversary of

prohibition by a public meeting held at Oswego. Gov. St. John was present, and made the principal address. The day was unfavorable, a heavy rain falling almost continually from 9 o'clock until after the proceedings had closed; yet notwithstanding this, an immense crowd assembled, coming from nearly all parts of the county. Even the enemies of prohibition had to concede that the celebration was a success, and its friends were strengthened in their determination to see the saloon permanently driven out.

#### ORGANIZATIONS FOR ENFORCING THE LAW.

It was not long after this, however, until the friends of prohibition in the county who were gifted with any measure of discernment were satisfied that its enforcement meant a long and hard struggle. Those who had been accustomed to reap the enormous profits which are incident to the sale of liquor, and whose disposition was to furnish all means possible for man's downfall, were not disposed to surrender the privilege they had for such a length of time enjoyed, so long as they could find any means by which they could successfully defy the law. The number of those engaged in the traffic being so much larger at Parsons than at any other point in the county, they, having more capital invested in the undertaking, made that the headquarters for the liquor-men of the county.

E. R. Marvin, the proprietor of the Belmont House, was the leader of this law-defying class. As good attorneys as could be found in the county were employed in the defense of Marvin, and those arrested with him, for the violation of the law. A protracted legal contest ensued, in which for a time it seemed

as though the defyers of the law were to be triumphant because of the inability to secure a jury who would render a verdict of conviction even when the most positive and convincing testimony was presented to them. Occasionally, however, a jury of honest men could be secured, and witnesses who knew something of the obligations of an oath could be put upon the stand, in which case verdicts of guilt were found. To aid the officers in the enforcement of this law, various local organizations were formed from time to time as necessity seemed to require, and the wisdom of the temperance people judged advisable. The first of these which was at all prominent and effective was the Labette County Law Enforcement Society, which was organized in the court-house in Oswego January 27, 1883; Rev. John Elliott was elected president; W. L. Simons, vice-president; A. A. Osgood, secretary; and J. M. Bowman, treasurer. This meeting was largely attended by delegates from all parts of the county. Prior to this, however, local organizations had been formed in Oswego, Chetopa and Parsons. In July, 1882, a prohibition association was formed at Oswego. The Law Enforcement Society continued in force for some two years, during which it raised quite large sums of money with which to employ counsel to assist the county attorney and to meet the expenses necessary to a protracted litigation. It was thought best to raise this money by private subscription, so that the public expenses attendant on the enforcement of the law would not make it obnoxious to those tax-payers who might not have any particular interest in seeing it made a success.

On May 9, 1885, Hon. Albert Griffin lectured in Oswego, and at the close of the lecture a committee consisting of Nelson Case, of Oswego, T. J. Calvin, of Chetopa, and Rev.



H. A. Tucker, of Parsons, was appointed to effect a county organization. Thereafter, on October 20, 1885, the Labette County Temperance Union was organized, at the office of Nelson Case, in Oswego, a public meeting having been called at said office for that purpose. Rev. H. A. Tucker was elected president; several parties in different parts of the county, vice-presidents; Nelson Case, secretary; and C. U. Dorman, treasurer. This organization proved more effective than any that had hitherto been formed for the purpose of enforcing the prohibitory law. Mr. Tucker devoted a large amount of time canvassing the county, forming local associations, creating public sentiment in favor of the law, and uniting the earnest temperance workers into a solid organization for active duty. The result was that every saloon in the county was closed; scarcely a "boot-legger" or "jointist" was foolhardy enough to risk his liberty for the amount of profits to be realized from the sales he could hope to make. Not a very large amount of money was raised or expended by this organization, but a very large amount of earnest work was done by a few who were determined to see that the law was enforced, and it was practically demonstrated that prohibition could be made to prohibit when the officers, backed by a healthy public sentiment, were determined that it should be.

There has never been a time when the prohibitory liquor law could not be enforced in this county. Much of the time it has been fairly well enforced. But some of the time there has been a good deal of illegal selling, both by those running joints with no pretense of law to justify them, and by so called druggists who had obtained permits. Other movements, similar to the one started in 1885, followed in subsequent years. Law enforcement organiza-

tions have been formed that have done much toward strengthening, and in some cases compelling, the officers to enforce the law. Experience has practically demonstrated that when the public officers were as much in sympathy with the enforcement of this law, as they were with that of other criminal laws, they had really no more difficulty in enforcing this law than they had in enforcing any other; but, on the other hand, when they were bent on giving the liquor seller protection, or were indifferent as to the result, it has been hard work for private citizens to secure a closing up of joints, and a punishment of those engaged in the illegal traffic.

#### DRUGGISTS' REPORTS.

It was thought by some that the druggists who had been licensed to sell liquor under the law during 1882 had sold a larger quantity than was really needed for "medicinal, scientific and mechanical purposes." With the opening of 1883 the probate judge, while yet there was no law requiring reports to be made by those licensed to sell liquor, prepared blanks which he distributed to all of the druggists to whom license had been granted, requesting them to make monthly reports, verified by their affidavit to be true and correct, showing under the following heads what they had done in the way of making sales, viz.: "No. of sale," "Date," "Name of physician making prescription," "Person for whom liquor was prescribed," "Person to whom liquor was delivered," "Kind of liquor sold," "Amount of liquor sold." Most of the druggists complied with this request without objection, and made their reports. Some of the reports showed a very large amount of liquor sold, and whether or not it was sold illegally seemed to depend

principally upon whether or not the druggist had a right to fill all prescriptions made by practicing physicians, or whether he was bound to know that a prescription for liquor every day or oftener was in fact a subterfuge in order to enable the party to procure liquor to use as a beverage and not as a medicine. It became evident that the great bulk of prescriptions were made by a few physicians, and that they were made regularly to parties who thus obtained liquor almost as frequently as was desired.

Some druggists refused to make reports as requested; to all such the probate judge refused to renew their license when those that had already been given had expired. This caused a little friction, but in the end the plan adopted very largely secured the end sought, viz., to license only the druggists who were found not to abuse the privilege of the permit and under cover of the druggists' license carry on a real saloon. Two years after the adoption of this policy by the probate judge, the Legislature enacted a law substantially requiring what he had been doing without any law on the subject. It was found that very few responsible druggists cared to have the files of a public office contain the evidence of their carrying on a saloon business. In many ways the practice of requiring reports to be made, and thus giving publicity to all sales of liquor, was found to be conducive to the cause of temperance and to tend to lessen the amount of liquor sold and consumed. Still, as time went on, the druggists very generally became indifferent to the kind of a showing their reports made, and many of them, for considerable periods of time, did what would seem to be an extensive saloon business. In passing upon their applications for permits, the probate judge did not always look to the evidence their reports furnished as to whether or

not the applicant was doing a legitimate druggist's business or was using his permit as a cover for running a saloon. The weakness of a system is best tested by its results in actual practice. Evidently some better remedy must be found than has yet been put in practice for reaching those who deliberately and persistently violate the spirit, if not the letter, of their permits.

#### "ORIGINAL PACKAGE" HOUSES.

In April, 1890, the Supreme Court of the United States, in a cause brought there by writ of error from the Supreme Court of Iowa, decided that a liquor-seller in one State might send his liquors into another, there to be sold in the original packages as they were shipped, notwithstanding the laws of the latter State absolutely prohibited the sale of liquor within its boundaries. This decision announced a rule entirely opposed to the opinion which was generally entertained by the legal profession respecting the clause of the Federal Constitution giving to Congress the power to regulate interstate commerce; and by virtue of it a century's practice of police regulation was upset, and a new system instituted as contrary thereto as could have been effected by a legislative enactment. Seldom has anything transpired which has been hailed by the saloon-men with a greater degree of delight than was manifested by them on the announcement of this decision. They were not long in making their arrangements to open saloons under the designation of "original-package houses" in nearly every town where public sentiment would at all tolerate them. In many places the temperance people made such a bold resistance to their introduction that the proprietors deemed it unwise to force them upon the people.

This state of things was not left to be con-



M. K. & T. RY. DEPOT AT PARSONS.



tinued for a great length of time under the sanction of law. On August 8, 1890, the Congressional enactment known as the Wilson bill was approved, whereby the old rule of allowing the States under their power of police regulation to prescribe such rules as they desired, governing or prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within their respective jurisdictions, was revived. Very soon thereafter the original-package saloon, like its predecessor of some other name, took its departure from our county.

A party brought a lot of liquors to Oswego, and attempted to rent a room in which to open out an original-package saloon. He found trouble in securing a room. Finally some one, to see what effect it would have, got a sign painted and put it up over the door of a vacant room belonging to John Clover. The town was soon astir with excitement. Mrs. Clover came up town, and, learning of the sign being on their building, at once proceeded to have it torn

down. The determined opposition to the opening of such a saloon deterred any farther attempt in that direction.

In both Parsons and Chetopa these original-package houses were opened, several in both places running until after the passage of the Wilson bill. As is often done by saloonmen, those opening these houses were not content to sell under the law as it had been interpreted by the court granting them the authority so to do, but, disregarding the legal restrictions which the law had thrown around the sale, they carried on an open saloon. Prosecutions were soon commenced against them, and probably had the Wilson bill not been passed most of these houses could have been closed and their proprietors confined in the county jail; but the passage of the law and the criminal prosecutions instituted by our officials effectively removed from our boundaries the last original-package house.

## POSTOFFICES AND POSTMASTERS

*Altamont*.—Name changed from Elston Feb. 1, 1875. Postmasters appointed as follows: Henry E. Hammon, Feb. 1, 1875; Jane Huston, Nov. 19, 1878; William M. Paramore, Sept. 18, 1884; Andrew J. Garst, Oct. 21, 1885; Martha E. Davis, July 22, 1889; William S. Houghton, Nov. 7, 1893; Richard A. Davis, Oct. 13, 1897.

*Angola*.—Name changed from Arnold Jan. 31, 1887. Postmasters appointed: Isaac N. Watson, Jan. 31, 1887; Alfred Elliott, March 29, 1889; J. W. McCartney, March 10, 1894; Joseph Carr, Feb. 3, 1898.

*Arnold*.—Established Aug. 1, 1881. Postmasters appointed: Allen S. Meek, Aug. 1, 1881; James M. Sage, Jan. 4, 1884. Name changed to Angola Jan. 31, 1887.

*Bartlett*.—Established Sept. 15, 1886. Postmasters appointed: Jerome Callahan, Sept. 15, 1886; Ira W. Clark, April 11, 1889; Haly J. Reece, Oct. 10, 1889; Jerome Callahan, Oct. 31, 1893; J. O. Wiley, Oct. 13, 1897; Paul A. Reece Nov. 5, 1897.

*Big Hill*.—Established June 8, 1868. Postmasters appointed: Joseph McCormick, June 8, 1868; David Stanfield, March 24, 1871. Discontinued Sept. 18, 1871.

*Barton*.—Established Jan. 11, 1877. Postmasters appointed: John H. Tibbets, Jan. 11, 1877; William Paramore, March 28, 1884;

George E. Nichols, July 28, 1884. Discontinued March 19, 1886.

*Cecil*.—Established February 15, 1881. Postmasters appointed: John Lyons, Feb. 15, 1881; George Burge, May 8, 1882; Cornelius W. Fowler, Dec. 9, 1885; Mrs. Elizabeth Lewman, April 4, 1887; George Burge, May 15, 1889.

*Chetopa*.—Established April 15, 1867. Postmasters appointed: Willoughby Doudna, April 15, 1867; Zachariah Woodward, May 8, 1868; Ephraim J. Stuart, Jan. 13, 1870; Jefferson J. Hibbetts, April 22, 1872; James M. Cavaness, Oct. 29, 1875; Josephus P. De Jarnett, May 18, 1885; Joseph Craft, July 18, 1889; William J. Herman, March 16, 1894; Joseph Craft, May 5, 1898.

*Clymore*.—Established Nov. 15, 1869. Postmasters appointed: John W. Lushbaugh, Nov. 15, 1869. Discontinued May 7, 1872.

*Creswell*.—Established March 25, 1870. Postmaster appointed: Edward Spicer; March 25, 1870. Discontinued Sept. 11, 1871.

*Crouse*.—Established April 23, 1880. Postmasters appointed: Daniel B. Crouse, April 23, 1880; M. Jennie Sacks, April 7, 1884; Jennie M. Hunter, May 1, 1884. Discontinued Oct. 23, 1885.

*Dennis*.—Established June 8, 1881. Postmasters appointed: John S. Milligan, June 8,



1881; John N. Webb, Nov. 21, 1881; James L. Wilson, Sept. 1, 1885; Louis R. Powell, Dec. 16, 1887; John Raney, July 24, 1889; Samuel C. Rickart, September 2, 1893; Cyrenius W. Gragg, April 2, 1897.

*Dora*.—Established Dec. 24, 1869. Postmasters appointed: William H. Godwin, Dec. 24, 1869; Francis W. Noble, Nov. 24, 1877; John I. Martin, Nov. 26, 1884; Mrs. Ada James, Jan. 23, 1885. Discontinued Nov. 11, 1886.

*Daytonville*.—Established Aug. 12, 1870. Postmasters appointed: Elitha K. Current, Aug. 12, 1870. Discontinued July 7, 1871.

*Deertown*.—Established Sept. 5, 1881. Postmasters appointed: Aaron Humes, Sept. 5, 1881; Charles M. Keeler, Sept. 4, 1884. Name changed to Valeda Sept. 3, 1886.

*Edna*.—Established April 4, 1878. Postmasters appointed: Alexander Pattison, April 4, 1878; Frank A. Clark, Jan. 30, 1880; John S. Odell, Nov. 20, 1886; Frank W. Martin, July 12, 1889; William H. Pottorff, Jan. 25, 1894; Frank W. Elliott, Dec. 24, 1897.

*Elm City*.—Established Sept. 24, 1886. Postmasters appointed: Zachariah H. Robertson, Sept. 24, 1886; Lewis F. Smith, Dec. 19, 1888; James H. Brown, Feb. 28, 1889; Thomas Greenup, May 21, 1891; Jesse Edmundson, Jan. 9, 1892; Philip E. Mulkey, Sept. 17, 1895; Hiram A. Wilson, July 6, 1897.

*Elston*.—Established May 18, 1870. Postmasters appointed: John B. Laurence, May 18, 1870; David L. Adams, July 24, 1870; Martin V. B. Watson, Feb. 24, 1871. Discontinued June 11, 1873. Reestablished Aug. 19, 1873. Postmasters appointed: John Elston, Aug. 19, 1873; Susan A. Prather, Jan. 7, 1874; Henry A. Hammon, Oct. 21, 1874. Name changed to Altamont Feb. 1, 1875.

*Fishkill*.—Established July 3, 1878. Post-

master appointed: William H. Fish, July 3, 1878. Discontinued July 2, 1879.

*Gorham*.—Established June 11, 1875. Postmaster appointed: Park B. Clark, June 11, 1875. Discontinued Sept. 5, 1878.

*Grant*.—Established May 8, 1876. Postmaster appointed: William J. Harshaw, May 8, 1876. Discontinued Dec. 13, 1876.

*Hackberry*.—Established April 1, 1875. Postmaster appointed: Theodore A. Fellows, April 1, 1875. Discontinued July 13, 1876.

*Idenbro*.—Established Oct. 18, 1887. Postmasters appointed: Thomas T. Iden, Oct. 18, 1887; Joseph Allen, March 3, 1892; Benjamin F. Briggs, Jan. 17, 1898; Theodore F. Dienst, Nov. 4, 1899.

*Luka*.—Established Dec. 10, 1866. Postmasters appointed: John P. D. Mouriquand, Dec. 10, 1866; Zachariah Harris, April 11, 1867; Jesse Fry, March 17, 1868. Discontinued Aug. 31, 1868. Reestablished February 15, 1869. Postmaster appointed: Aaron P. Grover, Feb. 15, 1869. Discontinued Dec. 14, 1869.

*Kingston*.—Established Jan. 9, 1878. Postmaster appointed: Charles W. Campbell, Jan. 9, 1878. Discontinued Nov. 20, 1886.

*Labette City*.—Established June, 16, 1868. Postmasters appointed: Richard G. Tileston, June 16, 1868; George H. English, July 20, 1869. Discontinued April 8, 1870.

*Labette*.—Name changed from Neola July 3, 1870. Postmasters appointed: David C. Lowe, July 3, 1870; James W. H. Goulden, Oct. 3, 1870; Samuel W. Collins, March 16, 1875; Jonas T. Lampson, June 30, 1875; James W. H. Golden, Jan. 5, 1876; John S. McClain, Nov. 4, 1885; Alonzo C. Lamm, April 16, 1889; Thomas Harvey, April 20, 1893; William J. Webb, June 4, 1897; Alonzo C. Lamm, Aug. 10, 1897.

*Lancville*.—Established May 29, 1884. Postmasters appointed: Isaac W. Galyen, May 29, 1884; John W. Morning, April 16, 1886; Benjamin Franklin, Nov. 13, 1886; Samuel Ballentine, Nov. 1, 1887; Ira P. Merrill, April 9, 1888; John W. Howell, Dec. 31, 1895; Edward D. Clark, Nov. 22, 1897.

*Lake Creek*.—Established Dec. 5, 1870. Postmaster appointed: Oscar C. Ketchum, Dec. 5, 1870. Discontinued March 29, 1872.

*Matthewson*.—Established August 15, 1878. Postmasters appointed: William T. Carter, Aug. 15, 1878; William McDown, June 24, 1879; Gustavus V. Watson, April 3, 1882; William McDown, April 21, 1882; Marshall E. Thompson, Jan. 22, 1883; William McDown, Nov. 17, 1885.

*Minerva*.—Established Dec. 8, 1874. Postmasters appointed: William H. Bower, Dec. 8, 1874; Charles M. Keeler, July 23, 1877; Morris W. Monroe, Nov. 13, 1878; Daniel W. Butler, Nov. 10, 1879; Russell A. Curry, Jan. 24, 1882; Martha E. Butler, May 11, 1882; Mary E. Adams, July 6, 1883; Russell A. Curry, July 20, 1883; Mary E. Adams, Nov. 15, 1883.

*Montana*.—Established Oct. 4, 1866. Postmasters appointed: Benjamin F. Simons, Oct. 4, 1866; Samuel S. Watson, Jan. 21, 1868; Charles E. Simons, May 21, 1872; Samuel Ballentine, Jan. 22, 1877; Jonathan J. Freeman, Sept. 2, 1885; Samuel Ballentine, July 15, 1889; James P. Bradfield, Jan. 26, 1894; Odilon B. Shultz, May 29, 1897.

*Mortimer*.—Established Jan. 12, 1883. Postmasters appointed: James T. Mortimer, Jan. 12, 1883; William J. Iliff, July 11, 1883; James G. Finley, Feb. 18, 1884; James B. Hibbard, Feb. 24, 1886; Geo. Lohman, July 9, 1886; Emanuel Mortimer, Nov. 1, 1886; William H. Makeaney, April 20, 1889; James T. Mortimer, June 14, 1895; Walton E. Stapp,

Jan. 7, 1899; William Terhune, Oct. 26, 1899.

*Mound Valley*.—Established May 18, 1870. Postmasters appointed: Alexander Honrath, May 18, 1870; Lewis F. Nicklace, Dec. 23, 1872; Francis M. Anderson, Nov. 7, 1873; Lilburn W. Slocum, Nov. 9, 1874; Milton Dunn, June 11, 1875; Robert Blackley, Nov. 29, 1875; Newton M. Miller, March 17, 1880; George Lutz, Aug. 1, 1884; Peter W. Shick, Aug. 26, 1885; James M. Richardson, Aug. 27, 1886; John Dudley, July 10, 1889; Charles E. McEwen, April 21, 1892; Isaac M. Hinds, Nov. 21, 1893; William F. Thrall, Nov. 19, 1897.

*Mendota*.—Established Sept. 25, 1869. Postmasters appointed: William K. Hayes, Sept. 25, 1869. Name changed to Parsons Dec. 9, 1870.

*Neola*.—Established Oct. 12, 1868. Postmasters appointed: William J. Conner, Oct. 12, 1868; David C. Lowe, March 28, 1870. Name changed to Labette July 5, 1870.

*Oswego*.—Established Oct. 4, 1866. Postmasters appointed: Nelson S. Carr, Oct. 4, 1866; John Q. Cowell, May 7, 1868; John D. Coulter, March 29, 1869; Abel W. Pickering, Dec. 12, 1870; Hiram P. Newlon, April 13, 1871; Littleton S. Crum, April 13, 1876; John M. Landis, Dec. 2, 1886, not confirmed, but again appointed March 7, 1887; Frank D. Allen, Aug. 2, 1889; J. W. Waskey, March 6, 1894; William F. McGill, Nov. 16, 1897; Maud McGill, July 19, 1900.

*Parsons*.—Name changed from Mendota Dec. 9, 1870. Postmasters appointed: William K. Hayes, Dec. 9, 1870; Samuel O. Fletcher, March 22, 1878; Frank W. Frye, Aug. 7, 1885; Harry H. Lusk, April 23, 1889; Frank W. Frye, Feb. 27, 1894; Harry H. Lusk, June 7, 1897.

*Ripon*.—Established January 12, 1870. Postmasters appointed: Carlton B. Pratt, Jan. 12, 1870; Mrs. Almira L. Pratt, April 3, 1872; Thomas H. Bruner, April 13, 1874; Thomas Greenup, Oct. 31, 1877. Discontinued Dec. 15, 1884. Reestablished May 6, 1886. Postmasters appointed: Thomas Greenup, May 6, 1886; John Triplett, Jan. 10, 1887. Discontinued Jan. 9, 1891.

*Stover*.—Established Oct. 9, 1883. Postmaster appointed: Henry M. Debolt, Oct. 9, 1883. Name changed to Debolt, July 16, 1884. Postmaster appointed: Henry M. Debolt, July 16, 1884. Name changed to Stover, Jan. 28, 1886. Postmasters appointed: Clark M. Monroe, Jan. 28, 1886; Rufus T. Monroe, April 17, 1888; Henry M. Debolt, April 16, 1889; James M. Logan, Sept. 9, 1893. Discontinued Sept. 23, 1895.

*Sylvan Dale*.—Established March 29, 1876. Postmaster appointed: Geo. S. Anderson, March 29, 1876. Discontinued Jan. 21, 1878.

*Snow Hill*.—Established Jan. 13, 1879. Postmasters appointed: Wm. Geyer, Jan. 13, 1879; William B. Roberts, July 12, 1880; James Cool, April 5, 1884. Discontinued July 16, 1884.

*Timber Hill*.—Established Dec. 22, 1869.

Postmasters appointed: Francis Labadie, Dec. 22, 1869; Winfield S. Gotzenbaum, June 26, 1870; C. L. Boutillier, March 31, 1871; William J. Boutillier, Dec. 13, 1876; John T. Weakley, May 8, 1879. Discontinued Nov. 17, 1879.

*Trenton*.—Established Jan. 30, 1872. Postmasters appointed: John W. Hall, Jan. 30, 1872; James M. Arthur, Feb. 25, 1874. Discontinued May 10, 1875.

*Valeda*.—Name changed from Deerton Sept. 3, 1886. Postmasters appointed: Charles M. Keeler, Sept. 3, 1886; William Blackford, Nov. 11, 1886; John G. Willey, March 26, 1889; Alexander H. McCarty, Jan. 4, 1893; Allen E. Townsend, Nov. 16, 1897; Erastus A. Milliken, Jan. 5, 1901.

*Wilsonton*.—Established Sept. 9, 1887. Postmasters appointed: John J. Melick, Sept. 9, 1887; Survilda A. Modlin, Sept. 18, 1888; Shelby W. Bonebraker, Dec. 5, 1888; Morris T. Baker, Aug. 10, 1889; Andrew R. Werning, Feb. 18, 1890; John M. Gordon, March 28, 1891; Ada A. Hopps, Sept. 30, 1891; James L. Switzer, Aug. 31, 1894. Discontinued May 7, 1895. Reestablished June 6, 1895; postmasters appointed, John Gordon, June 6, 1895; William H. Lee, Dec. 15, 1896.

## THE PRESS

---

For some time after the settlement of the county commenced, the settlers had to depend on verbal and written communications for the transmission of local news. The first paper to be published in this part of the State was the *Neosho Valley Eagle*, the first issue of which is dated May 2, 1868—just a month before the first publication appeared in Labette county. While the *Eagle* was published at Jacksonville, in Neosho county, it was issued from an office only a few feet north of the county line, and was regarded by the settlers in this county almost as their own paper. B. K. Land was editor and publisher, and until the establishment of the *Register* his paper was considered the official paper of this county, and was very generally patronized by our citizens.

### PAPERS PUBLISHED AT OSWEGO.

#### THE OSWEGO REGISTER

Was the first paper to be published in Labette county. The town company arranged with E. R. Trask, of Emporia, to bring a press and establish a paper at this point, and guaranteed him 300 paid subscribers, office rent for one year, and a building lot. The first issue of the paper appeared June 5, 1868. Trask continued to publish the paper until June 4, 1869, when he sold out to C. C. Clover and F. B. McGill, who thereafter published it until December 30, 1870, when McGill sold his interest to

Clover, but continued as editor until June 1, 1871. About August 19, 1871, John Shorten took charge of the paper as editor and publisher, although there were associated with him in its ownership, and probably in its management, some who had been longer residents of the county. December 27, 1871, Shorten retired from the control of the *Register*, and B. W. Perkins took charge as editor. On May 21, 1872, E. R. Trask became joint owner with Perkins in the paper, and together they published it until May 1, 1873, when R. J. Alexander and J. C. Smith became the owners and publishers, and so continued until the 17th day of the month, when its issuance ceased, and no paper was issued until October 3, 1873, when J. R. Wilson became editor, with L. S. Crum as publisher. This arrangement continued until about the last of January, 1874, when W. P. Bishop succeeded Mr. Wilson as editor, and L. S. Crum continued as business manager. The last issue under this management was on November 27, 1874. E. R. Trask succeeded Bishop, and for some time thereafter E. R. Trask and H. P. Newlon had control of the paper. About the last of February, 1875, they arranged for its sale to F. B. McGill, and on March 12, 1875, appeared the last issue of the *Register*; and from henceforth it became incorporated into the outfit of the *Oswego Independent*.

THE FIRST DAILY.—On May 13, 1869,

Trask issued a little sheet which he styled the "*Oswego Daily Register*," and which was marked "Vol. 1, No. 1." This was filled with matter relating to Oswego and Labette county, and was intended simply as an advertising medium. No. 2 of this "daily" never made its appearance. About September 10, 1871, Shorten started the *Oswego Daily Register*, which was the first daily paper published in this part of the State. He thought to make it a success by supplying the neighboring towns with a daily paper the same day of publication, and as soon as the issue was out a messenger started with a bundle of them to Chetopa and other points. This daily was short lived, only about 40 issues appearing, and it finally closed November 15.

#### OSWEGO INDEPENDENT.

W. J. Lea had been one of the publishers of the *Independent* at Columbus for some time prior to its removal to Oswego. F. B. McGill, having no connection with any paper at that time, arranged for the purchase of a half-interest in the paper, the other half being retained by W. J. Lea, and they two moved it to Oswego, and on June 15, 1872, the *Oswego Independent* first made its appearance. Lea was one of the publishers up to November 23, 1872, when he sold his interest to F. B. McGill, who thereafter was editor and proprietor up to September 5, 1874, when J. W. Monfort became a joint owner and publisher, and continued as such up to June 10, 1875, when McGill again assumed exclusive ownership and control, and continued the editor and publisher until his death, on August 18, 1879. J. S. Waters, who had done some editorial work for Mr. McGill prior to his death, while he was unable to do the work himself, succeeded Mr. McGill as editor, and continued as sole responsible

editor to October 8, 1881, at which time the name of J. E. Bryan appears with that of J. S. Waters as editors. Mr. Bryan had, however, for some time before this done more or less editorial work. Waters and Bryan were joint editors up to April 29, 1883, when Mr. Waters retired, and Mr. Bryan became sole editor, and continued to act as such up to November 27, 1885. At that time Nelson Case became editor. Mr. Bryan's name continued to appear as one of the editors up to September 3, 1886, but he did very little work after Mr. Case took charge. Mr. Case continued to edit the paper to March 1, 1889. Since that time Mrs. McGill and her sons, W. F. McGill and Lee McGill, were the editors. Of course the local work has been done by many different parties. W. F. Thrall was local editor for some time, and the McGill children have for many years done a large part of the local work. Mrs. Mary A. McGill continued as publisher and business manager of the paper from the time of her husband's death down to her own death, which occurred June 12, 1900. Soon thereafter, Lee McGill and Maud McGill purchased the interest of the other two children in the plant, since which time the *Independent* has been under their management, the editorial work being in the hands of Lee McGill. It will thus be seen that since the first issue of the *Independent* on June 15, 1872, it has been under the control of the McGill family.

THE DAILY INDEPENDENT.—On Wednesday, October 5, 1881, the first issue of the *Oswego Daily Independent* appeared, with J. S. Waters and J. E. Bryan as editors. Mr. Bryan had for some time been doing more or less editorial work on the *Independent*, but not until the commencement of the daily did he appear as associate editor. Mrs. McGill continued to publish the daily until January 25, 1883, when

its publication ceased. It may fairly be stated that the daily was not started nor its publication continued with the idea on the part of the publishers or the editors that the best interest of all concerned required the publication of a daily in this place; but the *Oswego Republican* being at that time opposing a part of the Republican ticket, it was thought by some of the political managers that the oldest Republican paper in the place, and the one recognized as the most reliably Republican, should issue a daily to meet the opposition of the *Daily Republican*. It was under these circumstances that the *Daily Independent* was started and maintained as long as it was, and its publication discontinued only after its owner had made it evident that Oswego was not a large enough place to justify the publication of a first-class daily paper.

#### THE OSWEGO DEMOCRAT.

In the spring of 1870 M. V. B. Bennett came to Oswego from Iowa, bringing with him material for a newspaper office, from which he soon issued the *Oswego Democrat*, which he continued to publish until November 27, 1870, when he moved the establishment to Independence, from which place he continued to issue the paper.

#### OSWEGO ENTERPRISE.

On September 27, 1878, Volney Moon, of Webb City, issued the first number of the *Oswego Enterprise*, which he published weekly until November 20 of the same year, when, claiming that he failed to get a sufficient support to justify its continuance, he sold the establishment to J. F. McDowell, who moved it to Baxter Springs.

#### THE LABETTE COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

This paper was founded October 16, 1879,

by George S. King, D. S. Capell, and Frank W. Frye. Mr. King did the main part of the editorial work, Mr. Frye the local work, and Mr. Capell had charge of the job office. On May 30, 1880, Mr. Capell sold his interest to his partners and retired from the firm. Messrs. King and Frye continued together until February 11, 1881, when Mr. Frye sold his interest in the paper to Mr. King, who was its editor and publisher until December, 1882, when G. F. King became editor—his father, however, remaining publisher. This arrangement continued until July 1, 1883, when the paper was purchased by J. M. Landis and A. D. Carpenter, who continued in charge until March 13, 1884, when Mr. Carpenter sold his interest to Mr. Landis. On September 13, 1887, C. E. Hughey and H. A. Harley leased the office, and continued in its management until the first week of December, when Mr. Landis again assumed control, and for several years continued to be the editor and publisher. However, at the close of 1892, the paper passed under the control of J. D. H. Reed. Mr. Reed continued as the ostensible editor and publisher of the paper until May 17, 1894, when Mr. Landis again became the recognized editor,—he remained in charge until July 26, 1894, when he sold the plant to The Democrat Publishing Company. Although not so announced on the paper, Harry Mills was its editor and business manager, and so continued until March 5, 1896, when its publication finally ceased, the plant at that time having been sold to William Cook, and the paper having been merged in the *News-Blade*.

#### THE LABETTE COUNTY STATESMAN.

On August 29, 1889, the first number of this paper was issued from its Oswego office as the successor of the *Chetopa Statesman*,



which for four years preceding had been published at Chetopa. Nelson Abbott, with his wife a part of the time and his son a part of the time associated with him, was the editor and also the publisher of this paper from its first issue until its publication ceased at his death, which took place January 20, 1892. The last issue of the paper under Mr. Abbott's management appeared January 8, 1892, although one or two small sheets subsequently appeared during his sickness explaining the cause of the paper failing to issue. In March, 1892, R. B. Claiborne purchased the office from Mrs. Abbott and renewed the publication of the *Statesman*, the first number under his management being on March 10, 1892. When the *Times* suspended and passed under the control of the *Democrat*, Mr. Claiborne purchased the right to use its name, and on July 14, 1892, the name of the paper was changed to the *Times-Statesman*.

#### THE AMERICAN CRANK

Was published but a few weeks; it first appeared November 18, 1892. W. W. Whetstone was its publisher and Harry Mills, its editor.

#### THE OSWEGO REPUBLICAN.

About August 1, 1881, a sandy-complexioned, medium-sized man, named H. H. Brooks, whose speech at once gave token of his English origin, made his appearance upon the streets of Oswego, hailing at that time from some point in Texas. It was not long after until the material for a printing establishment appeared at the depot, and on Monday, August 8, 1881, No. 1 of the *Oswego Daily Republican* was scattered among the reading public. On Thursday of that week appeared the *Weekly Republican*, and from that time on both the daily and weekly *Re-*

*publican* made their regular appearance. Upon March 7, 1883, the daily ceased, but the weekly continued until the close of 1886, being at that time changed into the *Bee*. I. W. Patrick, who was a joint owner with Brooks from the start, did not appear as one of the editors or publishers until September 30, 1881. Brooks and Patrick continued as joint owners until August 3, 1882, when Brooks sold his interest to Patrick and retired. Patrick continued to run the paper until April 23, 1885, when it was sold to C. A. Wilkin and Jess Brockway. In the fall of 1884 J. M. Hutton became associate editor, and in Patrick's absence as Indian agent did all the work on the paper. Wilkin and Brockway as editors, and F. G. Moore as publisher, ran the paper until August 27, 1885, when they sold to Abe Steinbarger, who, from September 1st to the close of 1886, had complete control as editor and publisher, when its publication ceased under the above title.

#### THE OSWEGO BEE.

On January 1, 1887, the first number of the *Bee* appeared as the successor of the *Republican*. It was run by Abe Steinbarger as a weekly, on very much the same plan as he had theretofore run the *Republican*, up to October 6, 1888, when he sold to R. W. Wright and J. H. Macon, who conducted it until January 26, 1889, when it passed into the hands of a publishing company with Jess Brockway as editor, under which management it continued until May, 1889, when its publication ceased.

THE DAILY BEE made its appearance March 7, 1887, and continued until September, 1888.

#### THE OSWEGO COURANT

Was published from the old office where the *Bee* had been gotten out, and was considered a

successor of that paper. Its first issue was dated May 25, 1889, and it continued to appear until February 27, 1891, when its subscription list and good-will were sold to the *Independent*. It was started by S. C. Steinbarger and A. L. Utterback; December 14, 1889, Mr. Utterback retired, and the paper was continued to its close by Mr. Steinbarger.

#### THE OSWEGO TIMES

Was started by S. C. Steinbarger, June 13, 1891, and was conducted under the same management until July 9, 1892, when its subscription list and good-will were sold to the *Labette County Democrat*, and the *Times* was discontinued. Mr. Landis sold Mr. Claiborne the right to use the name of the suspended paper in connection with that of the *Statesman*.

#### LABETTE COUNTY BULLETIN.

In 1877 Parnell & Houck started this paper as an advertising medium. Its publication continued for several months.

#### REAL ESTATE EXPRESS.

In July, 1885, C. R. Waters, a real-estate agent at Oswego, issued a sheet with this title, through which to let the people know what he was doing in the real-estate business.

#### THE DAILY INSTITUTE

Was a sheet edited and published in Oswego by O. V. Hays and S. A. Rendall during the session of the institute in August, 1881. It was devoted mainly to matters connected with the institute.

#### THE LABETTE COUNTY SCHOOL JOURNAL

Was a monthly publication having but a short life. Mrs. Lucy Best was its editor and J. M.

Landis, its publisher. The first number appeared in October, 1892.

#### THE LABETTE COUNTY TIMES-STATSMAN

Was the successor of the Labette County *Statesman*, the name having been changed when the Oswego *Times* suspended publication and its name was purchased by Mr. Claiborne July 14, 1892. R. B. Claiborne continued to edit and publish the paper until his death on October 1, 1899, when his son, H. H. Claiborne, assumed control and conducted the paper until January 4, 1900, at which time the plant was sold to William Cook & Son; the publication of the *Times-Statesman* then ceased, being merged into the *News-Blade*.

#### THE OSWEGO NEWS

Was a daily, published by S. C. Steinbarger. It was started in the spring of 1894 and ran in that manner until August of that year, when it was united with the *Union Blade* to form the *News-Blade*.

#### THE UNION BLADE

Was started by Captain G. A. Nicholetts, apparently with the intention of making it of especial interest to old soldiers and as the organ of the G. A. R. The first issue appeared January 27, 1894, and the last on August 4, 1894, when it was sold by Captain Nicholetts to S. C. Steinbarger, and united with the *News*.

#### THE OSWEGO NEWS-BLADE

Made its appearance August 11, 1894, being the consolidated Oswego *News* and *Union Blade*. The last issue of the *Union Blade* was numbered 28, and the first issue of the *News-Blade* was numbered 29. S. C. Steinbarger was the editor and publisher of this paper from

its first issue in August, 1894, to the close of 1895. On the 1st of January, 1896, William Cook became half-owner of the paper. Its publication was continued by Steinbarger & Cook until June 20, 1896, when Mr. Cook purchased Mr. Steinbarger's interest and became the full owner. In 1899 he associated his son, John, with him in its publication. February 10, 1897, the name of the paper was changed to that of the *Oswego Weekly Blade*, and as such it is still conducted by William Cook & Son.

#### THE KANSAS FARM AND HOME

Was a monthly publication started in February, 1899, by S. C. Steinbarger. Its publication was continued but five or six months.

#### THE DAILY STAR

First twinkled on May 4, 1899. William McNamer was its editor and ran it until about the middle of October of that year. He revived its publication for a short time in December, but with the close of 1899 it ceased to shed any light.

#### THE DAILY MESSENGER.

When the *Star* suspended in October, 1899, Charles Howard started the *Messenger*, which he conducted for about a month, or perhaps a little more.

#### THE OSWEGO DEMOCRAT.

The first issue of this paper appeared October 21, 1899, and it has been issued regularly since that date. Alf. D. Carpenter has been its editor and publisher from the first.

#### THE GOLDEN ROD

Is an irregular publication, conducted by Dr. W. S. Newlon as an advertising medium, and

also as a vehicle through which he conveys to the public much of his general information.

### CHETOPA PAPERS.

#### THE CHETOPA ADVANCE.

Col. John W. Horner and A. S. Cory brought to Chetopa from Baldwin City, Douglas county, a printing-press and outfit, in December, 1868, and the first issue of the second paper in the county appeared under the above designation, January 6, 1869. J. W. Horner was editor, and Horner & Cory were publishers. From the first, J. M. Cavaness was foreman of the office. On the last day of May following Mr. Cory retired from the paper, leaving Colonel Horner as sole owner and editor, which he continued to be until the first of January, 1870, when he associated with him S. A. Fitch in the management and editorship of the paper. At this time the name of the paper was changed to that of

#### THE SOUTHERN KANSAS ADVANCE.

The last of July, 1870, Mr. Fitch retired, leaving Mr. Horner again as sole owner. On July 1, 1872, James M. Cavaness became the owner of a half-interest in the paper, and its business manager. Mr. Horner sold his half-interest on February 27, 1873, to L. J. Van Landingham, and the paper was then conducted by Cavaness & Van Landingham. August 27, 1874, Nixon Elliott bought from Mr. Van Landingham his half-interest, and became the business manager, with Mr. Cavaness as editor. Mr. Cavaness, by the purchase of Mr. Elliott's interest, became the sole owner of the paper on February 25, 1875. The name of the paper was on April 4, 1878, changed back to the

## CHETOPA ADVANCE.

On Febraury 4, 1886, A. F. Sloane and W. A. Shanklin leased the office from Mr. Cavaness, and became its editors and publishers. With the opening of 1887 Mr. Shanklin retired, and Mr. Sloane continued as sole editor and publisher until June 30 of the same year, when R. M. Roberts succeeded him in that position. On October 5, 1887, Mr. Roberts' engagements calling him elsewhere, A. G. Drake assumed control of the paper, in which position he continued for one year. Mr. Cavaness, having all the time retained the ownership, again took charge of the paper as its editor and publisher on October 4, 1888, and continued in that relation until September 1, 1899, when the paper passed under the control of William P. Hazen as editor and publisher, and under his management it has since appeared.

## CHETOPA HERALD.

On March 4, 1876, this paper made its appearance under the editorial charge of J. H. Hibbits, the publication of which he continued until September 1, 1877, when he announced its suspension on account of want of support. On December 15, 1877, Frank W. Frye, who had been employed in the *Herald* office under its publication by Capt. Hibbits, resurrected the paper in a much-diminished size, it being a five-column quarto, and being changed from a Republican to a Democratic sheet. It was continued under this management until February 16, 1878, when the office outfit was finally sold, and the paper ceased.

## THE KEYSTONE

Was a temperance paper, edited and published

by J. M. Cavaness and J. H. Hibbits. The first number appeared May 1, 1883.

## SOUTHERN KANSAS DEMOCRAT.

The 1st of April, 1872, the first issue of this paper appeared, under the editorial management of F. D. Harkrider, in time to advocate the election of Geo. W. Fox for mayor. Its publication was continued until September, 1872, when the outfit was advertised by the sheriff to be sold on execution.

## THE CHETOPA TIMES

Made its appearance in June, 1884, with R. F. Brown as editor. On January 22, 1885, its publication was suspended, arrangements having been made with the *Advance* to fill out its unexpired subscription list.

## THE CHETOPA DEMOCRAT

Was founded March 16, 1888, by J. J. Rambo, who continued as its editor and publisher until November 11, 1897, when he sold the plant to M. A. Chesley, who has since been its editor and publisher.

## CHETOPA STATESMAN.

No. 1, volume 1, of this sheet appeared August 6, 1885, with Nelson Abbott and Mrs. R. M. Abbott, editors and proprietors. At the close of its fourth volume the material of the office was removed to Oswego, and the *Labette County Statesman* appeared as its successor.

## SETTLERS' GUIDE.

J. B. Cook, doing a large land business at Chetopa, and desiring to advertise the same, started a paper with the above name, which he issued quarterly from 1873 to 1880, inclusive.

## PARSONS PAPERS.

## THE ANTI-MONOPOLIST.

On January 5, 1871, the first issue of this paper appeared, purporting to be issued from Parsons, but being printed in fact at the *Monitor* office, in Fort Scott. Perry D. Martin was its editor and proprietor. After the issuance of a few numbers its publication was suspended, but it was again resurrected about the middle of the year, appearing at this time as issued at Osage Mission. But two issues, however, appeared from its new home; and a disagreement between Martin and his associates arising, Martin was forced to retire, and the paper was succeeded by the *People's Advocate*.

## THE PARSONS SUN

Shed its light through No. 1, volume 1, on June 17, 1871, M. W. Reynolds and Leslie J. Perry, editors and proprietors. It was started as an eight-column, all home print. On August 12th of that year Mr. Perry sold his interest to Angell Matthewson, who continued with Reynolds as publisher until February 13, 1872, when he sold to G. C. West, from which time Reynolds & West conducted the paper until November, 1872, at which time West retired as associate editor, and was succeeded by Harry L. Gosling. In May, 1874, Reynolds, having theretofore been appointed receiver of the U. S. Land Office, retired from the management of the *Sun*, and G. C. West assumed full control, which he continued until April, 1875, when the *Sun* again passed under the control of Reynolds. Gifford & Winter, who up to about this time had been publishing the *Parsons Surprise*, soon thereafter consolidated it with the *Sun*, the management of which was

now under the control of Reynolds, Gifford & Winter, who continued its publication until November 11, 1876, when its publication as a weekly was discontinued, appearing occasionally thereafter, more as an advertising medium than anything else. On May 12, 1877, its publication was renewed by Reynolds, and by him continued until December 14, 1878, when the entire outfit was sold to H. H. Lusk, who has continued its publication ever since.

DAILY SUN.—On the morning of September 5, 1880, the *Daily Sun* made its appearance, and has continued regularly to appear since that time as the only morning daily paper published in the county, with the exception of once or twice when one of the other papers appeared as a morning issue for a short time.

## THE WESTERN ENTERPRISE

Was conducted at Parsons by T. C. Cory and V. J. Knapp. It was started September, 1872, and published monthly thereafter until January, 1873. It was a five-column, eight-page paper, nicely gotten up, carefully edited, with a large amount of reading matter intended to give a good idea of the great West to all persons seeking information in respect thereto.

## PARSONS WEEKLY HERALD.

On Thursday, May 22, 1873, this paper was started by O. Edwards, A. W. Gifford, and A. C. Covell, and its publication continued for something less than one year, when it failed for want of support.

## PARSONS ECLIPSE.

About the 1st of April, 1874, the *Parsons Weekly Herald* was sold on chattel mortgage

and bought by J. B. Lamb, with which outfit the *Parsons Eclipse* was started by J. B. Lamb and J. B. Taylor as editors and proprietors. The first number appeared April 9, 1874. On March 29, 1877, at the end of the third volume, Taylor withdrew, from which time its publication was regularly conducted by J. B. Lamb & Sons until the death of Dr. Lamb, December 26, 1890, since which time his sons conducted it. For several years past, Celsus A. Lamb has been sole manager and editor.

THE DAILY ECLIPSE was started May 9, 1881, and is farther spoken of under the head of dailies.

#### THE SURPRISE.

About the middle of April, 1873, A. W. Gifford started the *Surprise*, which suspended after a few weeks' existence, and the force united with the *Herald* outfit. The latter having finished its career about the last of February, 1874, the *Surprise* was resurrected, being published by A. W. Gifford and W. L. Winter, and continued until January 26, 1875, when it surrendered to the inevitable.

#### THE PARSONS SUNDAY LEADER

Was started in October, 1882, by G. F. Kimball as editor and proprietor; it continued but a short time.

#### SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS ADVERTISER.

In July, 1879, Copeland & Brewster, of Parsons, issued a real-estate sheet under the above title.

#### THE JOURNAL.

The *Daily Journal* having been discontinued in January, H. C. Sourbeer, on May 1, 1891, commenced the publication of the *Jour-*

*nal* as a weekly, which was continued by him until November 13, 1891, when it was merged into *Mills' Weekly World*, and its publication under the title of the *Journal* ceased.

#### PARSONS PALLADIUM.

Frank W. Frye and Will W. Frye were the founders of this paper, the first issue of which appeared February 24, 1883. From August, 1883, to February, 1885, E. S. Stevens had charge of the job department of the paper. From February to October, 1886, George S. King had charge of the editorial department. Will W. Frye then did the editorial work for some time. On June 1, 1889, Frank W. Frye purchased the interest of his brother in the establishment, since which time he has been sole editor and proprietor.

#### THE CLARION

Was started in the summer of 1888, by Sheward & Gregg. After a few months Mr. Gregg sold his interest, and L. S. Sheward became the sole editor and proprietor. In January following, A. H. Tyler became editor, in which position he continued until the close of the year, at which time Mr. Sheward again became its editor as well as publisher. Its publication was continued, with few interruptions, until near the close of 1890, when it altogether ceased.

#### SETTLERS' ADVOCATE.

About the 1st of August, 1872, Bancroft and Cory issued the first number of the *Settlers' Advocate*, at Parsons, and continued the publication as a monthly until the spring of 1873, when they issued a weekly edition.

#### THE NEOSHO VALLEY LAND GUIDE.

In September, 1871, Walker & Thomas, real-estate agents at Parsons, started the pub-



lication of a real-estate paper under the above title, to advertise their land business, the publication of which continued for some two or three years.

#### PARSONS ADVOCATE.

Matthewson & Biggs issued this paper as a medium for advertising their real-estate and loan business, from December 1, 1884.

#### KANSAS BANNER.

This paper was started as an organ to enable religious and educational associations to meet the public. It was more especially under the direction of the Y. M. C. A. Each organization was expected to prepare the material ready for publication that it desired to have appear; thereby little editorial work was required. The first issue was dated July 15, 1886, and but six monthly numbers were issued.

#### A WORD FOR YOU

Was a publication of a religious character, started in 1891 by Rev. P. M. Griffin. After a few issues other parties became associated with him, and the name of the paper was changed to that of

#### THE HOME VISITOR.

Under this designation it lasted till the summer of 1892, when it ceased for want of support.

#### MILLS' WEEKLY WORLD

Was removed from Altamont to Parsons in the middle of November, 1891, and on the 17th of that month the first issue of the paper from the Parsons office appeared; it was conducted by H. C. Sourbeer and Harry Mills. At the end of about three months Mr. Mills'

connection with it terminated, after which time it was conducted by Mr. Sourbeer until he changed its name to the *Western World*.

#### KANSAS PROGRESS.

From June to August, 1883, H. C. Sourbeer published this paper almost exclusively as an advertising medium. The profits were supposed to be derived from advertising, though a little revenue came in through subscriptions.

#### KANSAS STATE ALLIANCE.

This paper was published at Parsons; it was started July 1, 1890, and, with some interruptions, continued till near the close of 1891. W. H. Utley was its business manager at the start, but he sold out in the course of a few months, and it was conducted by several members of the County Alliance. George Campbell was its first editor; afterwards H. A. White edited it for a time; then A. H. McCormick, and still later other parties.

#### THE ARBITRATOR.

J. M. Jones, James Tisdale, and perhaps others, were members of the firm of Jones & Co., who were the publishers of this paper. M. Byrne was secured as its editor. It was started in the summer of 1886, and its publication was continued for perhaps two months, when the arrest of its editor and publishers on the charge of criminal libel forced it to suspend. A part of the defendants escaped punishment on the ground that the evidence did not directly connect them with the publication of the libelous matter.

#### THE BUSINESS COLLEGE JOURNAL

Was started in October, 1892, by C. E. Ball, as an irregular publication through which he could advertise his business.

## THE WESTERN WORLD.

The name of the paper published by Mr. Sourbeer was changed from *Mills' Weekly World to Western World*, under which name its publication was conducted until September, 1893, when it ceased altogether. However, some two years later than this, one or two issues of a paper under this name were sent out; the thought being that perhaps the paper might be revived.

## THE NEW TIME

Was the title of a paper edited by H. C. Sourbeer for something more than a year, commencing in January, 1895.

## THE PARSONS INDEPENDENT.

In October, 1893, P. T. Foley purchased the *name* of the paper then published in Edna, and transferred it to a paper he was then starting in Parsons. This was done for the purpose of nominally complying with the law requiring a paper to have been regularly issued for at least one year before legal notices could be published therein; and the intention of the publisher in starting this paper was to secure the county printing the ensuing year. The first issue of the *Parsons Independent* was on October 28, 1893. D. H. Martin was its editor and so remained until he secured a position in the State penitentiary sometime in 1894. In July, 1894, A. G. Stacy became editor, and continued to fill that position until about the last of May, 1895. On March 1, 1897, R. J. Elliott took editorial charge of the paper, and remained in that position until the middle of April, 1899, when he was succeeded by Miss Louise Duley, who held the position some three months. I have not secured the

names of the persons who have prepared editorial work on the paper since that time.

## PARSONS GLOBE.

In the spring of 1898 E. S. Stevens and Charles Husband started the *Daily Globe*. Its publication was suspended during the summer. In the fall of that year Charles Husband and H. A. Bird revived the daily and with it also issued a weekly. The daily ceased publication in the fall of 1899, but the weekly was issued until the spring of 1900.

## THE PARSONS DAILIES.

## THE DAILY RECORD.

This was the first daily paper published in Parsons, and was started in the fall of 1876, in September or October, by J. P. Coffin. It was a very diminutive sheet, but served as a means of giving the local news. Mr. Coffin continued its publication till May 5, 1877, when he suspended for the purpose of becoming traveling agent for the *Sun*.

## THE DAILY OUTLOOK.

On August 20, 1877, the first number of this sheet appeared as the successor of the *Daily Record*, and, as the latter had been, under the management of J. P. Coffin. On January 31, 1878, he wrote his valedictory, the substance of which was, "Died for want of support."

## THE INFANT WONDER

Was started December 24, 1878, by McCarter Brothers, who conducted it as a daily until August 12, 1879, from which time to September 4 it appeared as a tri-weekly, on which last date it again resumed its daily issue, and continued as such till the last of April, 1880.

## THE DAILY REPUBLICAN.

Frank H. McCarter, proprietor of the *Infant Wonder*, which had just suspended publication, associated himself with William Higgins in the publication of the *Republican*. The first issue appeared on May 10, 1880, with William Higgins, editor. On March 22, 1881, Mr. Higgins retired from the paper and Mr. McCarter assumed full control. It was merged in the *Eclipse*, and its publication suspended May 9, 1881.

## THE DAILY ECLIPSE

Was started May 9, 1881, by J. B. Lamb and F. H. McCarter, the latter doing most of the work thereon for some time. The management of the daily was entirely separate from that of the weekly *Eclipse* for some months. For a number of years it has been conducted by the Lambs alone, and has been a well-established daily, with a liberal support.

## THE DAILY WONDER,

As a continuation of the *Infant Wonder*, was resurrected about November, 1881, by F. H. McCarter and E. R. Marvin, after the former had become disconnected with the *Eclipse*. In January, 1882, E. C. Burnett bought out Mr. Marvin, and in connection with Mr. McCarter continued to conduct the *Wonder* till September of that year, when its publication was again suspended.

## THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

Was started in Parsons in October, 1882, by E. C. Burnett, who continued its publication till January, 1883.

17

## THE DAILY SUN

Was started September 5, 1880, and is spoken of in connection with the *Weekly Sun*.

## THE EVENING STAR

Was first seen a little before sunset on Wednesday, April 6, 1881. It was published by M. W. Reynolds and George Higgins for gratuitous distribution. On September 2, 1881, Mr. Higgins retired, and removed to Paola to engage in the newspaper business at that place. The *Star* continued to give out more or less light till about the time of the fall election in 1881.

## THE DAILY JOURNAL.

W. H. Martin was the founder of this paper, and conducted it from November 10, 1889, to September 10, 1890, when he sold the plant to H. C. Sourbeor & Sons, who continued its publication until January 15, 1891, at which time it was discontinued.

## THE DAILY ELI

Was started in the fall of 1890, and continued to appear for several months—perhaps nearly a year. It was under the same general management as the *State Alliance*. A. J. Miller was its editor a part, and perhaps all of the time it ran.

## THE DAILY GLOBE

Was published a part of 1898 and 1899, as stated above under *Parsons Globe*.

## THE DAILY NEWS

Was started April 23, 1900, and appeared regularly until publication was suspended, March 7, 1901. J. M. Cunningham was its editor and publisher all the time.

## ALTAMONT PAPERS.

## ALTAMONT TIMES.

On or about January 17, 1884, the first number of this paper made its appearance under the management of — Gastin and Milton Fuller, and continued under their charge until about the 1st of June, when the material was purchased by C. Len. Albin.

## ALTAMONT SENTINEL.

C. Len. Albin, having purchased the outfit of the *Times*, started the *Sentinel*, the first number of which appeared July 4, 1884, and was continued by him until July 10, 1885, when he sold the paper to H. C. Blanchard. B. F. Godfrey was associated with Albin in the editorship of the *Sentinel* for a short time before Albin sold to Blanchard. Blanchard conducted the paper alone from the time of his purchase until September 11 of that year, when he sold one-half interest therein to Frank Wilkins, from which time Blanchard & Wilkins published it until January 15, 1886, when Blanchard sold his interest therein to Harry Mills; and on the 29th of the same month Mills also bought Wilkins' interest, and became sole editor and proprietor. On January 4, 1886, C. S. Newlon having bought a half-interest, the paper appeared under the management of Mills & Newlon. On March 14, 1886, Mr. Mills sold his interest to Dr. Newlon, and Mrs. Lizzie Newlon became editor and publisher, which she continued until January 5, 1889, when she was succeeded in the editorial chair by W. H. Conner. On October 23, 1889, W. J. Lough took charge as editor and publisher, and conducted the paper till July 16, 1890, when its publication ceased.

## ALTAMONT NEWS.

After C. Len. Albin sold his interest in the *Sentinel*, he associated with him W. T. Pickett, and they two purchased a printing office outfit, and on September 11, 1885, started the *Altamont News* which was a five-column quarto. After two issues of the paper Albin sold his interest therein to Mr. Pickett, who at once made arrangements for its removal to Mound Valley.

## MILLS' WEEKLY WORLD.

About the 1st of December, 1888, Harry Mills started a small sheet with the above title, at Cherryvale, Kansas. The first week in March, 1889, he removed the plant to Altamont, from which place he issued it from that time until the middle of November, 1891, when he sold an interest therein to H. C. Sourbeer, who removed the plant to Parsons, from which place it was issued until its name was changed to the *Western World*.

## THE ALTAMONT GAZETTE

Appeared January 25, 1895, under the management of P. S. Ray and H. Bristom. After a few weeks, Mr. Ray sold his interest in the paper to his partner, who continued its publication until the spring of 1896, when the plant was sold to Mr. Switzer and consolidated with the *White Banner*.

## THE ALTAMONT SATURDAY ITEMS

Was founded by Harry Mills, and the first issue appeared August 15, 1896. Mr. Mills continued to conduct the paper until the close of 1897, when it was merged in the *White Banner*, which was then published in Altamont.

## THE WHITE BANNER

Has been conducted by J. L. Switzer from the time it was first started until the present. It first appeared in June, 1894, as a monthly and was printed on a farm. After running six months as a monthly, it was changed to a semi-monthly. In July, 1894, the press from which it was issued was removed to Wilsonton, where the paper was published for nearly a year. It was then removed to Altamont, and the paper changed to a weekly. The first issue from the Altamont office appeared June 21, 1895, since which time it has appeared each week.

## EDNA PAPERS.

## THE EDNA ENTERPRISE.

December 8, 1886, the first number of this paper appeared, with J. J. Fields as editor and Harry Mills as publisher. It was a small six-column folio. The publication continued some five or six weeks, when the good-will of the office was sold to C. M. Brown, of the Mound Valley *News*.

## THE EDNA ERA

Succeeded the *Enterprise*. It was started by C. M. Brown, January 19, 1887. He moved the Mound Valley *News* office to Edna, where he published the *Era* about three months, when it ceased, and Edna was again without a paper for a short time.

## THE EDNA ENTERPRISE.

On April 15, 1887, J. D. McKeehen, as editor and proprietor, brought out No. 1 of the *Edna Enterprise* under his management, he having theretofore purchased the material of the old office. He continued its publication until September of that year.

## THE EDNA STAR.

John Truby and W. A. Pfeffer, Jr., started the publication of this paper, the first number appearing October 28, 1887. The last of April, 1888, J. H. Morse became its editor, and continued its publication until the close of June of that year.

## THE EDNA INDEPENDENT

Was started December 14, 1889, by G. W. Liever and A. C. Veach. In June, 1890, Mr. Liever sold his interest in the paper to Mr. Veach, who continued to publish it alone. On October 21, 1893, appeared the last issue of the *Edna Independent*. Mr. Veach then sold the title of the paper, viz.: the "Independent," to parties who wanted to commence the publication of a paper in Parsons, and who wanted to be able to have it appear as a paper that had been published at least one year, in order to enable them to secure the county printing.

## THE EDNA NEWS.

After the sale of the title of his paper as above stated, Mr. Veach continued its publication under the name of the *News*, the first issue of which was on October 28, 1893, and the last issue on September 8, 1894. Mr. Veach then removed his plant to Arkansas.

## THE EDNA SUN.

W. E. Staige commenced the publication of the *Sun* November 22, 1894, and has continued its publication ever since.

## THE EDNA ENTERPRISE.

In the latter part of September, 1899, the *Enterprise* made its appearance under the management of Dr. Johnson. On January 1, 1900, the paper passed under the editorial manage-

ment of J. L. Griffith, who conducted it for one year. On January 1, 1901, William A. Blair and George Reasor became the owners of the paper, under the firm name of Reasor & Blair, and its publication has been continued by them.

### MOUND VALLEY PAPERS.

#### MOUND VALLEY TIMES.

The first paper credited to Mound Valley was designated the *Times*, and was started December 16, 1881. It was printed by Brooks & Patrick, at the *Republican* office, in Oswego, and appeared as under the editorship of George Campbell. However, all the paper except a few local items was the same as the *Oswego Republican*. This arrangement was unsatisfactory to the citizens of Mound Valley, and the paper ran only a few weeks.

#### MOUND VALLEY HERALD.

The first issue of the *Herald* appeared April 6, 1882, with George Campbell as editor and proprietor. Mr. Campbell conducted it until the fall of that year, when he sold to C. L. Albin, who continued to edit and publish it until May 1, 1884, when it came under the control of W. F. Thrall, who has since then been its editor and publisher.

#### MOUND VALLEY NEWS.

About the 1st of October, 1885, L. C. Wilmoth and W. C. Pickett became the joint owners of the office material from which the *Altamont News* had been printed. This they removed to Mound Valley, and commenced the publication of the *News* at that point. In the spring of 1886 a company of several of the business men of Mound Valley was formed, under the title of "The Mound Valley News Company," for the purpose of publishing this

paper. About June 1, 1886, C. M. Brown and T. Rowen, Jr., became owners of the paper, and with L. C. Wilmoth as editor conducted it until September 9th, when Mr. Rowen retired and Mr. Brown became editor and proprietor, continuing Mr. Wilmoth as associate editor. The publication of the paper was suspended about the middle of January, 1887.

#### UNITED LABOR.

The first number of this paper was dated February 19, 1887. It was, however, issued ahead of its date. It purported to be published by the Farmers' and Laborers' Cooperative Union, and was edited by E. H. Barnhart. In June, 1887, C. L. Albin appeared as editor. During August and September its publication was suspended, but was resumed again in October, with G. S. Worthington editor. Its publication was continued until the early part of 1888. During all of its existence George Campbell was its principal, if not entire owner, and while he does not appear as editor, yet the paper was principally conducted by him.

### LABETTE PAPERS.

#### THE LABETTE SENTINEL.

On Thursday, September 8, 1870, a well-filled seven-column paper under the above title appeared from the printing-office just started at the town of Labette, with J. S. Waters as editor and proprietor. On October 13th Mr. Waters associated with him in the management of the paper, Thomas Irish. Mr. Waters having been elected county attorney at the November election in 1870, he retired from the editorship of the *Sentinel* on November 24th, from which time it was conducted by Mr. Irish until sometime in March, 1871, when its publication ceased for a short time. About the



1st of April, however, it was revived by the Albin Brothers, who carried on its publication for some time, when it was given up by them as a losing venture. About May 10, 1872, Sheldon & Johnson attempted its resurrection, and tried to put it forth for some months, when it again became defunct. On the suspension of the Oswego *Register*, in May, 1873, Smith, one of the former proprietors of that paper, bought the Labette *Sentinel* material and moved it to Nevada, Mo., and there used it in starting a new paper at that point.

#### THE LABETTE STAR

Was founded January 5, 1894, by W. L. Piatt, who conducted it until the fall of 1895, when he sold it to A. and J. S. Piatt. February 15, 1897, the plant was destroyed by fire. A new outfit was soon procured, and the publication of the *Star* was resumed and continued until July 1, 1898, when it ceased.

#### THE LABETTE RECORD

Made its appearance October 21, 1899, under the management of W. L. Piatt, who continues to edit and publish it.

### WILSONTON PAPERS.

#### THE WILSONTON JOURNAL

Was started at Wilson, May 1, 1888, by Mrs. Ella B. Wilson, since which time she has continued to conduct it as editor and proprietor. It is published monthly.

#### THE WHITE BANNER,

Which was first published on a farm for a time, was published in Wilson from July, 1894, to June, 1895, when it was removed to Altamont, where it has since remained.

### DENNIS PAPERS.

#### THE HUSTLER

Made its first appearance September 1, 1898, and was the first paper published in Dennis. It was not, in fact, printed in Dennis, but in Thayer; but it purported to come from Dennis. It was edited by A. E. Miller. It only lived three months.

#### THE LEADER.

Some three months after the death of the *Hustler*, another effort was made to establish a paper in Dennis. In February, 1899, A. E. Miller and Walter I. Thorne started the *Leader*, which for two months was printed in the *Palladium* office in Parsons. The proprietors then purchased a printing outfit of their own and the work on the paper was then done in Dennis. The first issue was dated February 9, 1899. After nine months, Mr. Thorne sold his interest in the paper to G. A. Miller. Miller Brothers continued to publish the paper until November 15, 1900, after which the plant was removed to Thayer.

### PAPERS PUBLISHED BY THE COLORED PEOPLE.

#### KANSAS ADVOCATE.

The first issue of this paper was dated at Parsons, September 1, 1881. It was a small eight-page paper, started by W. B. Avery, a colored minister, and was intended as a medium for furnishing the colored population with a line of reading-matter in which they would be especially interested, to be issued only monthly. But Mr. Brooks, of the Oswego *Republican*, entered into an agreement with Mr. Avery for publishing his paper at the *Re-*

publican office. It was very much enlarged in size, and issued weekly instead of monthly. While continuing under the editorship of Mr. Avery, the most of the material was the same as that which simultaneously appeared in the *Weekly Republican*. The colored people did not furnish a sufficient patronage to justify its continuance, and its publication ceased after some three or four months.

#### THE EYE-OPENER

Was started by the colored people of the county as an avenue by which to make known to the public their views, wants, and intentions, and as a means of educating their young people in the duties of citizenship. It was issued from Parsons. The first number was dated July 9, 1892. E. M. Woods was editor and E. W. Dorsey business manager. But in a

short time Mr. Dorsey withdrew to become president of the *Blade* company. The publication of this paper was discontinued with the close of 1892.

#### THE BLADE.

A little disagreement arising between the proprietors of the *Eye-Opener*, a division of interest seemed advisable to them, and on August 20, 1892, the Parsons *Weekly Blade* was started, with S. O. Clayton, editor; E. W. Dorsey, president; and Charles A. Morris, business manager. After a term of five years as editor, Mr. Clayton retired and was succeeded by J. E. Johnson. In 1898 the management of the paper passed to J. M. Dorsey, with whom it continued two years. Its publication then went into the hands of a company, and Charles A. Morris became its editor; and under this management it is now conducted.

## BENCH AND BAR

---

At the very opening of this topic I want to say that I do not expect to be able to mention the name of everyone who has been a member of our bar; many of them were here but a short time and left nothing to particularly call to mind their sojourn among us. I know of nothing that will furnish even the names of these parties except the numberless detailed records of court proceedings, and were one to go through all these he could hardly be sure he had the names of all members of the bar who have resided in the county. All I can say is that I shall say something of all whom I can recall and no name will be intentionally omitted.

### THE COURT.

The first term of the district court in this county was held in the second story of the only two-story frame building then standing on the Oswego town-site; it was located on the southwest corner of block 25 and had just been erected by Thomas J. Buntain. During 1868 and the spring term of 1869, court was held in different rented rooms. At the convening of the October (1869) term, court opened in the new frame building which Oswego had given to the county for a courthouse.

The first term of court was formally opened in the afternoon of Monday, October 7, 1867, and adjourned *sine die* on Friday, the

11th, although no business was transacted after Thursday. There was no trial and determination of any cause at this term of court. The business principally consisted in the admission of attorneys and the hearing and passing on some preliminary motions.

At the time of its organization this county was comprised in the Seventh judicial district, and so remained until March 24, 1870, at which time the law creating the Eleventh judicial district went into effect. This county continued in the Eleventh judicial district until February 22, 1901, on which day the law went into effect constituting Labette and Montgomery counties the Fourteenth judicial district.

### THE BENCH.

While we were a part of the Seventh judicial district, two different judges presided over our court; and during the time we were within the bounds of the Eleventh judicial district seven different persons held the office of judge.

W. A. Spriggs, residing at Garnett, presided over our court at its first session. He is the only one of our judges whom I have never known personally. He is said to have been a man of honor and fair ability. Having held court here for less than a week, he made no deep impression on our judicial matters.

In the fall of 1867, John R. Goodwin was

elected judge of the Seventh judicial district, and presided in our court during the next two years. He was fairly well versed in the law but owed his popularity more to his jovial nature and ability to mix with the boys than to his legal erudition. It required business of more than usual importance or to be more than usually pressing in its character to prevent his adjourning court for the purpose of accepting an invitation to assist sampling what were supposed to be good "warming" or "cooling" drinks, or to engage in a game of cards. However, Judge Goodwin kept the business of the court well in hand and gave quite general satisfaction.

The first two judges of the Eleventh judicial district were the Webb brothers, both of whom were well versed in the principles of the common law, and also possessed of natural abilities as lawyers.

When the bill was passed creating the new district, the Governor appointed William C. Webb, then residing at Fort Scott, its first judge. He was perhaps too technical to be a great lawyer or judge, but he was certainly very much above the ordinary lawyers who then were practicing in this part of the State. He was a hard worker, a stickler for form and order, and did much to bring the business of the court into a more orderly and consistent condition than it had ever before been in.

Henry G. Webb was elected judge of the district in November, 1870, and succeeded his brother on the bench. Two strangers could scarcely be more unlike than were these brothers. What William got in the way of legal knowledge by study and hard work, Henry absorbed or took intuitively. Had the latter been disposed to have worked as hard as did the former there is no telling what position he might have attained as a lawyer. Hen-

ry was much less technical and much broader in his legal views than was his brother but was not so orderly in his methods. For ability to clearly and forcibly state a legal proposition, Henry G. Webb has never had an equal on the bench of this district. He resigned his position as judge in the early part of 1873 and has since been a practitioner at the bar.

Bishop W. Perkins of Oswego was appointed to the bench on the retirement of Judge Webb in the fore part of 1873. This appointment was considered to have been the reward of efficient work done for Gov. Osborne in the preceding campaign no less than because of professional merit. Judge Perkins was a fair lawyer and made an efficient judge, but it was in the field of politics, rather than in that of jurisprudence, that he excelled. He was a born politician and had an instinctive scent for the trail of public sentiment. He was appointed county attorney a few weeks after he came to Oswego in 1869, and from that time, until within a few months before his death in 1894, he was a continuous office holder. He remained on the bench until January, 1883, when his official station was transferred from the bench to Congress.

George Chandler, of Independence, was elected judge of the district in November, 1882, assumed the duties of his office in January, 1883, and held the position until the spring of 1889, when he resigned to accept the position of Assistant Secretary of the Interior in the cabinet of President Harrison. Judge Chandler was a man of a good deal of natural ability and acquired power. His physical organization was capable of sustaining an unlimited amount of work and it was largely to this and his natural industry that he owed his success. As a judge he had some elements of strength and quite as many of weakness. He prided

himself on instructing a jury; yet it was the general opinion of the profession, that a jury would know less of the real merits of a case when he was through giving his instructions than when he commenced. He lacked the ability to grasp and clearly and concisely state the points at issue and then announce the law applicable thereto. His system of conducting court business frequently required parties with large numbers of witnesses to remain about the court for days before their cases could be reached. His requirement of punctuality on the part of litigants, attorneys, jurors and witnesses became actually burdensome and tended to retard rather than facilitate the dispatch of business. Notwithstanding his defects, he was an able and popular judge.

John N. Ritter of Columbus was appointed to succeed Judge Chandler on the bench, and served till after the November election in 1889; he was defeated for the position at that election. Judge Ritter was an honest, painstaking, careful, industrious and capable attorney, and he carried these qualities with him on the bench. As a lawyer probably no one would place him in the first rank in the bar of the State, but in the second ranks he would take an honorable place. He made a much more able and competent judge than the profession generally thought he would at the time of his appointment. His retirement from the bench was the source of regret to very many who had not been especially anxious to see him appointed.

Jerry D. McCue of Independence was elected judge in November, 1889, and served during the next five years. Mr. McCue was the first attorney who settled in this county and had always stood high at the bar. His personal indulgences in the early days of his residence among us had deprived him of much of the business which he would otherwise have

obtained. Perhaps on this account, more than for any other reason, he left Oswego and settled in Independence. Taking into consideration all of his qualities, I think it may be safely said we have never had an abler judge on the bench of this district than was Judge McCue. Naturally, he had a judicial mind. His professional preparation had been pursued in Illinois where he became well grounded in the principles of common law. His confidence in his own ability almost amounted to egotism and prevented any feeling of diffidence either at the bar or on the bench. This confidence enabled him to successfully use all his powers. His record on the bench is one of which he may well be proud.

Andy H. Skidmore of Columbus was elected district judge in November, 1894, and has served from the January following, during which time he has gained in his hold on the people. Judge Skidmore has had a popularity on the bench which some have found it difficult to account for. It can not be said to be altogether owing to his judicial ability. Perhaps it is in a measure owing to his uniform good nature, his close attention to the public business, his painstaking effort to hear all parties and consider all interests; and then to render such decision as he thinks the facts warrant. The division of the Eleventh judicial district and the placing of this county in a newly constituted district takes us from Judge Skidmore's jurisdiction. As this history is not supposed to enter the twentieth century, I shall not speak of the newly appointed occupant of the bench.

#### THE BAR.

Jerry D. McCue was the first lawyer to settle in Labette county. He had been admitted

to the bar in Illinois, but had little, if any, practice there. He reached Oswego in July, 1867. In September he attended the first term of court in Neosho county and was admitted to the Kansas bar there, so that, when our court convened in October he was an authorized practitioner under the Kansas laws. During his residence here he certainly had as much business as any member of the bar. In 1871 he moved to Independence where he resided and practiced till his election as district judge.

Next in order of time came N. L. Hibbard who arrived in Oswego in August, 1867. He had been the prosecuting attorney of his county and naturally felt competent to compete with those whom he had to meet in court here, all of whom were young men. Mr. Hibbard's laugh was the one quality by which he will be longest remembered by those who knew him here; it had almost the volume of a locomotive whistle. In 1870, without informing the public of his intentions, he took his departure from our midst.

W. J. Parkinson came to Oswego about the same time as Mr. Hibbard, and the two joined forces for the practice of their profession. The firm of Hibbard & Parkinson was the first law partnership in the county. Mr. Parkinson had recently come from one of the eastern states and had temporarily stopped in Leavenworth where he had been admitted to the bar of Kansas, so that he was the first lawyer who had been admitted to the bar in this state to settle in this county. He is said to have been a young man of fine address and good ability. On the first day of our first term of court on October 7, 1867, Judge Spriggs appointed Mr. Parkinson county attorney; before that time there had been no county attorney. In November of that same year Mr. Parkinson left the county and,

as I am informed, went east and entered the ministry.

The next lawyer to cast his lot among us was Walter P. Bishop, who arrived in Oswego in September, 1867, having already been admitted to the bar in Douglas county before coming here. Of all the attorneys who have practiced at this bar there has probably been no one who prided himself more on his good looks and elegant appearance than did Mr. Bishop. He had quite a good deal of ability and still more conceit. His good looks, ability and self assurance made him a popular attorney, and he was able to divide with Mr. McCue most of the best business of the county during the first two or three years after they came. Mr. Bishop was for a time county attorney, and afterwards probate judge. In 1870 he represented the county in the Legislature. His career at the bar was then virtually closed. He went to Topeka and failed to secure business; temporarily he came back to Oswego and failed here. He then went to Colorado where he died. The outcome of his career fell far short of what its opening promised it might be.

The four attorneys whom I have named are the only ones who had settled in the county, and who had been admitted to the bar prior to the opening of the first term of our district court. But at that term of court there appeared as one of the practitioners of the bar John Secrest, of Humboldt, who sometime thereafter settled at Chetopa, where he lived several years. Some of his enemies claimed that in his business he had more practices than practice. He was finally killed by a band of outlaws in the Indian Territory.

Of these five attorneys all had been admitted to practice in Kansas before the opening of



our first term of court except Mr. Hibbard, and he was made a member of the Kansas bar on the first day of the term. The only other attorneys who appear from the records to have been in attendance at that term of court were W. A. Johnson, of Garnett, and John R. Goodwin, of Humboldt.

Five persons who were then "old settlers" in the county, not one of whom had ever pretended to read law, and perhaps neither of whom had ever looked in a law book, unless it were the statutes, were regularly admitted to the bar, after having "passed a satisfactory examination," at the first term of our court. The examination was probably on the quality of the liquor furnished by the candidates to the committee. At first sight the record might indicate that some of these parties were admitted the first day, but from the whole record I am satisfied that all that was done the first day was the appointment of two committees on examination. Three of these parties were admitted on the second day of the term, one on the third day, and the other on the fourth day. The following are the names of the parties thus admitted to the bar, in the order of their admission: J. S. Waters, C. H. Bent, Dr. J. F. Newlon, W. C. Watkins, and C. C. Clover. Mr. Waters is the only one of these who ever became a practicing lawyer. It is true that Mr. Bent succeeded Mr. Parkinson as county attorney, but Mr. Bishop, who acted as his deputy or assistant, did all the work. Mr. Bent was the first and Mr. Watkins the second representative in the Legislature from this county. The latter was commonly known as "the gentleman from 'U. bet,'" because his favorite expression of assent was "you bet." Mr. Waters was never much of a lawyer, but he was a shrewd manager and very successful in local politics. He served several terms as county

attorney, represented the county in the Legislature, and subsequently was appointed to a position in one of the U. S. land offices in Idaho.

With the exception of Mr. Waters, who resided at Montana, all of the attorneys I have named belonging to this county were located at Oswego. The next who came to the county chose Chetopa as his place of residence.

James H. Crichton came from Indiana to Chetopa in the spring of 1868. For a number of years he has been, in respect to residence, the oldest attorney in the county. At an early age Mr. Crichton figured quite prominently in politics; he was twice a candidate for the State Senate, and was once or twice elected representative. For several years after coming here, he held quite a prominent place at the bar and had a very fair business; but he allowed politics and some other matters to interfere with his professional business, and for a number of years past he has seldom appeared in court and has practically abandoned practice.

W. C. Pew settled in Oswego in the summer of 1868 and remained until the early spring of the following year. While he was a well read lawyer he was not adapted to western ways of those days and got little business.

W. P. Lamb was the worst hater of all humanity, the most untiring prosecutor of any one whom he got in his power, the most bitter in his speech, against court and opposing counsel, and one of the most uniformly unsuccessful lawyers who ever practiced at this bar. Not without a certain degree of native ability and acquired culture, he had been so long accustomed to have his hand against every other man's hand that to instinctively dislike every other man became a quality of his mind. Those who slept within hearing distance of him during court said he was accustomed to spend a good portion of the night in cursing some one

with whom he had been brought in contact during the day. An intensely pro-slavery man, he had come to Kansas in an early day to assist in making her a slave state. He had been quite prominent as an attorney while that element was in the ascendant, but the habits of life and business which he had thus acquired had not fitted him to be a successful practitioner among the people who settled this county. He came here in the fall of 1868 settled at Chetopa where he made his home till late in the "seventies" when he went farther west.

W. M. Rogers came to this county about the close of 1868 and settled in Mound Valley township. In his former home he had been around the court room enough to learn several legal terms and when he came to this county he commenced to assist his neighbors to get into difficulty by attending to their cases in justice court. In 1871 he secured a favorable report from an examining committee and the court permitted him to be sworn as a member of the bar.

J. C. Strang lived at Oswego and was glad to meet Mr. Rogers in legal argument. He probably knew more legal terms than did his rival but he had drank so much more whisky that he could not always make as good use of them. He was never entrusted with any business and therefore seldom, if ever, did any one any damage.

J. F. Bellamy had been admitted to the bar in Indiana before settling at Jacksonville, in the northeast corner of this county. At this point he taught school and offered his services as a lawyer, but the extent of his practice was very limited. In a few years he went back to Indiana where he met with much better success. He subsequently returned to this state and is

now one of the prominent attorneys of Montgomery county.

John H. Gunn also lived at or near Jacksonville. He had no knowledge of law and the only way he attempted to succeed as a lawyer was by a kind of practice so reprehensible that no reputable attorney would indulge in it. The profession was honored by his removal from the county in the latter part of 1869.

About the close of 1869, Joseph S. Gage located at Chetopa and was admitted to the bar of the county in April, 1870. He staid here but a short time and did no legal business to speak of.

B. W. Perkins located in Oswego in April, 1869, and at once formed a partnership with W. P. Bishop which continued until his appointment as district judge. The firm of Bishop & Perkins always had a good business.

Nelson Case arrived in Oswego, May 15, 1869, and, since the retirement of Mr. Crichton from active practice, he has been, in point of residence, the senior member of the bar of this county.

J. J. Brown found his way to Oswego in June, 1869, and practiced his profession here till 1874 when he removed to Oregon. He had received a good education and had a faculty of making the most out of his position. He was something of a society man and made a good many friends. He was fairly successful while he remained in Oswego, but his success here was nothing in comparison to what it was on the Pacific slope. He there became one of the recognized leading financial men. I may say that he made his money in business and not simply in the practice of his profession.

In July, 1869, W. B. Glasse came to Oswego and at once, in connection with J. J. Brown, formed the firm of Brown & Glasse.

Mr. Glasse had a military experience which proved serviceable to him, even in the practice of law. In about a year from the formation of their partnership, Brown & Glasse took in a new partner and the firm became Adams, Brown & Glasse. After the dissolution of this firm Col. Glasse formed with H. G. Webb the firm of Webb & Glasse. From January 1, 1885, till Col. Glasse removed to Columbus in May, 1893, he was in partnership with Nelson Case under the firm name of Case & Glasse. Since that time he has been practicing his profession at Columbus. From his very first settlement in the county Col. Glasse took a high rank at the bar. He is the soul of honor, is well read in the law, is a forcible advocate and inspires with confidence all with whom he comes in contact. He served a term in the State Senate and was auditor of the county several years.

M. S. Adams came to Oswego from Leavenworth early in 1870. Sometime that year he became a partner of Brown & Glasse. He had been a prominent attorney and politician at Leavenworth but had only moderate success in this county. He went from here to Wichita.

Early in 1869 Frank M. Graham settled in Chetopa and became the junior member of the firm of Crichton & Graham. He was better adapted to office work than his partner and added much to the success of the firm. He was popular in Chetopa and exercised much influence in local matters.

F. A. Bettis came to Oswego in August, 1869, and soon went into partnership with Mr. McCue. Some months thereafter the firm became McCue, Bettis & Kelso. When Mr. McCue removed to Independence the firm of Bettis & Kelso became, perhaps, the leading firm of lawyers in the county. During his stay here, Mr. Bettis had two or three other partners for

a time. As an all around lawyer, adapted to all kinds of business, we have had few, if any, lawyers who excelled Mr. Bettis. Perhaps his greatest strength lay in his ability to at once meet an unexpected thrust from an adversary; it was difficult to surprise him. He was quick to take advantage of a weak point in an opponent's case. If people could have had as much confidence in Mr. Bettis' integrity as they had in his legal ability he would have a higher rank at the bar than he secured.

M. V. B. Bennett came from Iowa to Oswego in the spring of 1870. He was an intense partisan, had been an opponent of the administration in the Civil war, and brought with him to Oswego material for starting a newspaper. For several months he united editorial work on the Oswego *Democrat* with the practice of the law. In the fall of that year he removed, with his paper, to Independence. He subsequently became a noted temperance lecturer, but at the time he resided in Oswego he had no reputation in that direction. At the bar he was much stronger as an advocate than as a counsellor and he never took high rank as a lawyer, although he commanded a very fair practice.

J. D. Gamble came to Oswego with Mr. Bennett and became his partner. He was the office man of the firm of Bennett & Gamble and had fair ability in that line of work. He went to Independence with Mr. Bennett.

J. D. Conderman has never secured the business that his merits have entitled him to. He located in Chetopa in June, 1870, where he has since resided. He served one term very acceptably as county attorney. He lacks the aggressiveness of disposition to gain what properly belongs to him. Had he asserted himself more he might have attained a much better practice than he has enjoyed. He has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

J. B. Zeigler came to Oswego in the summer of 1870. He was a fine appearing young man and did some clerical work in some of the offices but did not secure any legal practice. The next year he went to Independence where he has built up a fine practice.

J. J. Long was admitted to the bar of this county in November, 1870. He had the misfortune of being associated with W. P. Lamb and had no success while he remained here.

E. D. Graybill had been a school teacher in Osage township. About the close of 1870 he commenced to get connected with cases commenced in justice court and sometimes induced the litigants to appeal them, and thus had a little practice in the district court. In three or four years from that time he left the county.

W. H. Carpenter of Osage township was a justice of the peace and sometimes represented his neighbors as their attorney before other justices. He had been admitted to the bar in Ohio, but had never practiced law. He was formally admitted to the bar of this county early in 1871, but never had any practice and soon removed from the county.

David Kelso came to this county in the summer of 1870. He first located at Chetopa, but soon removed to Oswego and became a partner of McCue & Bettis. He was one of the few men of the bar who always ranked much higher than his merits as a lawyer entitled him. He had social qualities which made him quite popular, and he was able to secure good positions. He held a fine position in the legal department of two or three railroad companies for several years. He acquired a love for liquor which very much interfered with his successful conduct of business.

T. L. Darlow was another lawyer who located in Oswego in the summer of 1870. He had not had much practice when he came here,

was more earnest and persistent than careful and studious in his habits, and did not make that growth as a lawyer which he, perhaps, might have done. He was a member of two or three firms while here and did a fairly good practice.

J. G. Parkhurst was the first attorney to settle in Parsons. He came there at the close of 1870 before the town was fairly laid out, and at once secured a fairly good business. He was a lawyer with some merits who also lacked some qualifications for becoming a first class practitioner. In a few years he returned to Michigan.

T. W. Thornton came to Parsons about the same time as Mr. Parkhurst, but did not stay long enough to attain any standing at the bar.

E. E. Hastings first came to Oswego, but after a short stay here located in Parsons near the close of 1870, where he remained but a few months. His practice while here was not sufficient to exhibit any legal ability although he was a young man of good appearance and seemingly fair ability.

George W. Fox settled in Chetopa in December, 1870, where he made his home for more than ten years. He went to the Pacific slope in the "eighties." While here he studied politics and did something at practicing law; but being a member of the minority party his political leadership did not prove very remunerative. In his professional practice he depended more on his ability to know and make use of men's religious, political and social opinions and prejudices as they appeared in court as jurors, witnesses or litigants than he did on knowing what the law was and being able to apply it.

Alexander H. Ayres prided himself on being a successful practitioner in the great state of New York. He came to Chetopa in Febru-

ary, 1871, and became the senior member of the firm of Ayres & Fox. Judge Ayres was a cultured gentleman, of very extended reading and with a memory that enabled him to recall, whenever wanted, anything he had ever read. He was perfectly familiar with the reports of his native state, and there was no question of law ever arose in his practice on which he could not cite a New York decision which, to his mind, was decisive. He was stricken down with a stroke of apoplexy while arguing a case in court.

William Davis came to Parsons in the early spring of 1871 as the general attorney of the M. K. & T. Ry. Co. He was a Kentucky Republican and was possessed of many of the graces for which the Blue Grass gentlemen are noted. As a lawyer his chief defect was a lack of discrimination. After reading a case he had no more conception of what it decided than would have been gathered by any school boy who should give it a like reading. He always came into court fortified with a large number of authorities, but they were as like to be decisions in his adversary's favor as his own. It was his misfortune to be unable to see a point. But the people liked Col. Davis, partly because when a case was decided against him he never knew that he was beaten, and for this reason, it may be presumed, they elected him county attorney, and then attorney general.

G. C. West located in Parsons in 1871 and became associated with Col. Davis in business. He never extensively engaged in the practice of the law in this county. When Col. Davis became attorney general Mr. West went with him to Topeka and did not return to this county.

R. M. Donelly came from Kentucky and was admitted to the bar of this county in June, 1871. His home was in Parsons. He was too much of a southern gentleman to be a very

good practitioner in the west. He had but moderate success here and after a time went to Texas.

E. C. Ward came from Chicago to Parsons in April, 1871. For several years he had a good deal of prominence and quite a practice, and secured for himself the nomination and election as county attorney. But he lost all standing when he was convicted of hiring a witness to tell the truth in a suit in which he was employed; for this he was disbarred. While he was thereafter readmitted to the bar, it gave him no standing. His admiration of himself was without limit.

Thomas C. Cory was the first county attorney in Neosho county. He removed from there to Parsons in 1871 and became an active and successful practitioner at our bar. The firms of Cory & Kimball and later Cory & Simons each had a fine business and managed it successfully. Mr. Cory was elected county attorney and died while filling that office.

Walter L. Simons came from Neosho county to Parsons in 1879 and entered into partnership with Mr. Cory. Whether with a partner or alone Mr. Simons always had a good business, and was prominent both as a lawyer and politician. He stood among the first at our bar and commanded the confidence and respect of all who knew him. From here he went to Fort Scott where he is now serving his second term as district judge.

W. P. Atkinson came to Chetopa in the latter part of 1871 and early in 1872 was admitted to our bar. He became a partner of Mr. Crichton. He had a good deal of physical strength and endurance but a very limited education and scarcely any knowledge of the law. In a year or two he returned to his former fields of labor.

Charles H. Kimball had been admitted to



the bar in the state of New York before coming west. He settled in Parsons the latter part of 1872 and a few months thereafter became a partner of Mr. Cory. Later the firm of Kimball & Ayres was formed; and in 1879 the firm of Kimball & Osgood was started and still continues. Mr. Kimball came to Parsons without means and has acquired quite a large amount of property. He has always been recognized as a fine trial lawyer and able attorney, and his services have been in demand in many important cases. He has served two terms in the State Senate.

L. C. True was one of the early settlers of the county but was not admitted to the bar until 1872. He was one of the promoters of the town of Jacksonville, and after losing confidence in the future greatness of that place he removed to Chetopa. On being elected county attorney he moved to Oswego. At present he is in Kansas City, Kansas. Col. True was a man of a large amount of native ability and made of himself a fairly good lawyer. He was a forcible speaker and had good success in jury trials.

H. W. Barnes had been prominent at the bar and in politics before leaving Wisconsin. He came to this county for the health of his family. He located in Oswego early in 1872 and soon obtained a fair practice. He was freer than some in expressing his convictions about the defects in our laws and thereby awakened some antagonism. He was at one time an independent candidate for district judge. He abandoned the practice before leaving here. He was a high minded, able lawyer. For several years before his death he made his home in Joplin, Missouri.

F. M. Smith was a contestant for legal business at Chetopa for several years. He was persistent in striving to secure the end sought.

For several years past he has been located at Vinita.

S. J. Stewart was not a resident of this county for a great length of time. He practiced some in justice court at Chetopa and was able to get into one or two difficulties with Chetopa people.

N. M. Purviance came to Oswego in 1872. He had the most peculiar makeup of any member of the bar. At times it would seem as though he had no ability and no business; at other times he seemed to be one of the leading members of the bar. Whether his failure at the bar finally was owing to his peculiar religious belief, and his adhesion to the teaching that spirits indulged in overturning tables and engaged in silly talk through the medium of silly girls, I do not know; but both while he resided here and after he left us he had a checkered career.

W. P. Talbot became a resident of Parsons in 1873 and at times was quite active in the practice; but for several years past he has practically retired from active practice. At one time he was a partner of Col. Davis. When Col. True was county attorney, Mr. Talbot did good service as his assistant.

H. G. Webb again entered active practice after resigning from the bench in 1873. He has been a part of the time out of the county, but most of the time located first at Oswego and then at Parsons. Although somewhat advanced in years he remains one of the leading lawyers of the county.

Of a number of parties much might be said in many respects, but as members of the bar their history need not be extended. H. M. Debolt was admitted to our bar in 1874, having theretofore been admitted in Missouri. William A. Medaris read law with Col. True and was admitted to the bar here in 1874 and



in a year or two thereafter removed from the county. I understand he has since attained a good standing at the bar. John Hamblin read law with Nelson Case and was admitted to the bar in 1875. He soon thereafter went to California. W. R. Moore was a valuable citizen of Montana for many years. He read law with Mr. Waters and Col. Davis, and was admitted to the bar in 1876. He afterwards moved to McCune. William Horsfall came from North Carolina, where he had been admitted to the bar and was admitted to practice here in 1877. Soon after this he entered the Episcopal ministry. A. B. Hammer had practiced law in Illinois. He was admitted to our bar in 1873 but never entered upon active practice here. I have heard he has been a practitioner in the territory of Oklahoma for several years. A. B. Hacker was admitted to the bar of the county in 1879 but he never had any practice. Thomas H. Bruner was admitted in 1880 on certificate of admission from Indiana. He never had any business in our courts. Joseph A. Gates was admitted in 1873. He had some practice for several years but was better known as a justice of the peace than as a practicing attorney. He was not without ability, but he did not seem to be able to make a lawyer. Samuel C. Elliott read law and was admitted to the bar in this county, but he at once went to Independence and engaged in practice; there he made a fine record until insanity compelled his confinement in the asylum. A. G. Drake has been an honored citizen of Chetopa for many years. He was admitted to our bar in 1876, but never engaged in active practice. He is an efficient office man. L. F. Fisher came to Chetopa in the spring of 1869, but did not remain long enough to develop the ability he had nor to make any reputation as a lawyer. George W. Hendricks

came from Illinois and settled at Labette and afterwards removed to Oswego. He has done some practice, but has given most of his attention to the duties of justice of the peace; he has served several terms in that position and has become an adept. Ira F. Adams, of Parsons, has not entered the general practice, but has done legal and clerical work in a loan office for a number of years. S. E. Ball, of Howard township, was admitted to the bar in 1878, but never did any legal business in this county. Alvah Shick, of Mound Valley, was getting quite a nice local business when he died. C. A. Wilkin came here when a boy, read law with Mr. Kelso, and was admitted to the bar in 1875. Abandoning the active practice of the law, he has for many years been engaged in the more lucrative business of abstracting and he is considered an authority on matters in that line. Ira C. Mitchell resided in Oswego but a few months, but was here long enough to convince the profession that his abilities were sufficient, were he to use them, to make him an ornament to the bar. But he was so addicted to drink that no one was sure that he would be in condition to attend to business when needed, and all confidence in his professional success soon vanished. He was admitted to our bar in 1876, and was for some time a partner of Col. Davis.

J. E. Bryan had a varied experience in Kansas. He preached at Chetopa before the Civil war, was pastor of the Methodist church in Oswego in 1871, afterwards read law and was admitted to the bar in Allen county, was a county officer there, returned to Labette county and was admitted to the bar in 1878, settling first at Chetopa and afterwards at Oswego, and went from here to Arkansas in 1885. While here, in addition to practicing law he edited the Oswego *Independent*. Mr.

Bryan was a man of a great deal of ability and succeeded fairly well in whatever he undertook; had he confined his energies to a narrower field he would have attained a higher standing in either calling chosen.

Jesse Brockway read law with Mr. Bettis and was admitted to our bar in 1875. His home was in Oswego from the time he came here in 1874 till he left the county in 1889. There have been very few members of this bar who had better natural abilities or whose prospect of success in the profession was better than that of Mr. Brockway when he started in business. Naturally he was a lawyer. But drink and other bad habits undermined his character and blighted a career which might have been brilliant.

A. A. Osgood settled in Parsons and was admitted to the bar in 1877. Since 1879 he has been a member of the firm of Kimball & Osgood, and has been, to a large extent, the office member of the firm. He has had fine success as a collector and is well adapted to looking after the details of legal work. Mr. Osgood has always maintained a good standing at the bar and has the confidence of a large circle of acquaintances. On Mr. Cory's death, Mr. Osgood was appointed to fill out his term as county attorney.

J. W. Marley was admitted to our bar in 1878, but he never entered on the active practice of law. Upon settling in Oswego he commenced loaning money and soon thereafter, in connection with others, opened a bank, since which time he has been in the banking business.

George S. King was a fine type of the old-fashioned southern gentleman. He was originally from Maryland and never lost the characteristics which he inherited or acquired in his early years. He came to this county in

1877, but did not become a member of our bar until 1879. At first he lived on a farm a few miles from Chetopa, but when he determined to practice his profession he moved to Oswego. He was an editor as well as a lawyer and, perhaps, he was even better suited to writing than to practicing law. He enjoyed the respect and confidence of all who knew him. He served one term as county attorney and a part of a term as county auditor.

George F. King was a son of George S. King. He was much more brilliant than his father, but lacked the latter's fine moral sensibilities and recognition of the requirements of a successful practitioner. He was admitted to the bar a few years after the family came to this county. He contracted the habit of drink and this, together with the use of morphine, soon ended a career that his friends had fondly hoped and expected would be useful and brilliant.

W. F. Schoch taught school several years before his admission to the bar. He started in the practice at Mound Valley but soon settled in Oswego, where he built up an excellent practice. He was also an active politician and did a great deal of campaign work. A few years ago he moved to Topeka and has got a good start in business in that city.

F. H. Foster has lived in Parsons a number of years and has done a good deal of practice, although he has always been engaged in loaning money or attending to some other business in addition to the practice of law. He is now cashier of the State Bank. He is very careful as a lawyer and usually is found to be in the right in his judgment.

J. W. Iden was a successful school teacher before commencing the practice of law. Having resided in Parsons for so many years, the people know him and entrust to his care many

matters requiring attention. As an active practitioner he has been for some time a member of the firm of Webb & Iden.

A. R. Bell has lived in Chetopa during the time he has been practicing law. He has been attentive to business, studious, obliging and has built up a nice practice.

F. H. Atchinson read law with Nelson Case and lived in Oswego most of the time while engaged in the practice. He left Oswego and went to Galveston, Texas, where he spent a few weeks, but not finding the prospect for practice all he could desire he returned to Kansas and went into the mercantile business in Columbus. As a lawyer he was a fighter from the start; his plan was to contest every inch of ground from the time the first pleading was filed. On the death of J. R. Hill, Mr. Atchinson was appointed to fill out his term as county attorney.

Joseph R. Hill when a boy came with his father to this county and grew up on a farm between Oswego and Chetopa. He read law with Case & Glasse and after his admission to the bar went into partnership with F. H. Atchinson. He was soon elected county attorney and died before the expiration of his term.

M. E. Williams has lived near and in Oswego from the time when he was a small boy. He has been engaged in farming and stock raising a good portion of the time since attaining manhood. He read law with Mr. Brockway and for some ten years past has been actively engaged in its practice. He is known as a careful practitioner and earnestly contends for every point he thinks can be raised in his client's interest.

Stanton J. Mattox acquired a large part of his education on a farm in Fairview township. Since his admission to the bar he has

resided in Oswego and has vigorously prosecuted or defended the suits that have been entrusted to him.

Arthur F. Cranston, of Parsons, is carefully looking after business and is building up a nice practice.

E. O. Ellis has resided in Parsons several years and every one has confidence in him. He ought to command an extensive business in the near future.

T. J. Flannelly was connected with a law firm in Kansas City before entering on the practice in this county. He has been located at Chetopa for three or four years. On January 1, 1901, he went in partnership with Nelson Case, at Oswego, but the firm of Case & Flannelly was soon dissolved by the appointment of the latter to the bench.

F. F. Lamb has gained a good start for a large practice. He is vigilant in pushing matters entrusted to his care. Having resided in Parsons from the time the town was started, he is acquainted with every one and as a consequence has an advantage over a new comer.

George Campbell has had many years of experience more or less connected with legal matters, although he has been a member of the bar but a few years. He formerly resided at Mound Valley, but for several years past has lived in Oswego. He has been a constant mixer in politics and has served a term in the State Senate.

O. M. McPherson was admitted to the bar, settled in Oswego and commenced the practice of the law after a successful experience as superintendent of city schools in Parsons. He soon obtained a government appointment and for a number of years has resided in Washington, where he is said to be commanding a very desirable position.

A. H. Tyler spent many years in the prac-

tice at Parsons. He was always actively engaged in politics and held many local official positions. Two or three years ago he left our county and settled in Wichita.

I. D. Highleyman has been an active politician and business man of Chetopa, and as a pastime he has occasionally indulged in the practice of the law.

Henry L. McCune came to Oswego in 1886, just after the completion of his law studies. He became a partner of J. H. Morrison. After practicing here a few years he removed to Kansas City.

A. B. Switzer served a term as county attorney, but no one was able to discover why he was elected or what qualifications he possessed to practice law. His home was in Parsons and when his term as county attorney expired he left the county.

T. C. Sears came to Parsons as the general attorney for the M. K. & T. Ry. Co., and represented the road for several years. He never engaged in general practice in this county. He had good ability, but as a practitioner was no better than the average lawyer.

John Thompson was a young attorney who came to Chetopa in 1886 and died within a year thereafter. He was a promising young man, who might have made a good record had his life been spared.

Arthur Crunforth spent a few months in Chetopa in 1887. He was a partner of A. G. Drake. In the short time he was here he made no lasting impression.

J. J. McFeely graduated from the position of justice of the peace of the city of Parsons into a member of the bar of this county. His idea seemed to be that he was cut out for a public officer, and, I have heard, was success-

ful in securing an official position after going to Colorado.

Leroy Neale came to Chetopa in 1870. Perhaps he had the largest collection business of any one in the county. He had a very good business along several lines, including commercial and corporation law. He seldom appeared in court, but one could scarcely travel anywhere on the cars without somewhere running across him looking after some feature of his business.

A. D. Neale, son of Leroy Neale, grew up in Chetopa, was associated with his father in his life time, and took the business of the firm after his father's death. He was admitted to the bar in 1889, since which time he has commanded a large share of the practice from Chetopa.

John H. Morrison came to Oswego from Illinois and at once entered on a successful practice. It was his good fortune to be able to pass for his full worth. He was possessed of popular traits and made and held many friends. Several other members of the bar were better lawyers, but few of them would pass for such with the public. He served a term in the Legislature and a term as county attorney. He was not always his own friend. His career ended while he was comparatively a young man.

J. F. McDonald, of Parsons, was more notorious than profound. No one could convince him that he was not a great lawyer, but his clients found he could get them in trouble more rapidly than he could get them out. His theme of discussion was his ability to down the corporations; however, most of them still survive.

M. Byrne studied law in jail and after be-

ing released spent several years at the bar, having quite a good line of business. Deeming the opportunities for the full use of his faculties here inadequate, he left the county and went to New York City.

E. L. Burton studied law in Cherokee county. On starting in business in Oswego he showed a willingness to attend to the most trivial matters and by this means was not long in working into a very fair business, and for several years past he has had a good line of practice. He has been active in politics and has before him a fine prospect of political preferment.

E. C. Clark was admitted to the bar before entering on his duties as clerk of the district court. After completing his term as clerk he formed a partnership with E. L. Burton. He has found the experience he acquired in the clerk's office very useful to him in his practice. Burton & Clark is one of the substantial law firms of the county.

T. N. Sedgwick is one of the old members of the Kansas bar, but he has not been in this county many years. He came from Emporia to Parsons to take charge of the legal department of the M. K. & T. Ry. Co. As general attorney of that corporation he has made a fine record as a corporation lawyer. He insists on his company being law abiding and will scarcely ever allow it to settle a litigated claim until he is satisfied of its legality by the decision of a court of last resort. He will probably be retained in the service of the company as long as he remains in the practice.

C. W. Butterworth was raised in this county, but was admitted to the bar and spent several years in practice away from here. Recently he has returned to this county and intends doing some practice here.

W. D. Atkinson has for years been attorney for the Parsons Commercial Bank, has served a term or more as city attorney of Parsons, and has had a general practice. He is a careful and competent attorney and has been very successful in handling his business.

Soon after Fanny Cooper was admitted to the bar, she formed a partnership with W. D. Atkinson, which had other purposes than the practice of the law. No one looks for a dissolution of this firm till the death of one of the parties.

Among the young lawyers who have been admitted to the bar somewhat recently are those whom I will now name. Some of them have already obtained a good start in the practice, while others have most yet to gain.

C. E. Kennedy has lived in Parsons from boyhood, has a large circle of acquaintances and may expect a remunerative practice. M. P. Gillin, D. N. Matthews, J. D. Peters, Willard Reynolds, A. H. Noyes, C. L. McGuire are Parsons lawyers who have a fair chance to make their way at the bar. W. A. Disch has been acquiring valuable information as deputy in the office of the sheriff and the district clerk. Walter Von Trebra, of Chetopa, has a promising future. Harry G. Davis studied law and was admitted to the bar after coming home from the Cuban war. He has located in Kansas City, Kansas. James R. Scott for some time assisted Mr. Sedgwick in railroad legal business. W. J. Gillette has given more attention to politics and medicine than to law. Rollin P. Norton did no business at this bar after his admission, and the same may be said of Ike D. Nearhart. Preston S. Davis has located at Vinita. H. H. Claiborne while editing the *Times-Statesman* was admitted to the bar, but with no expectation of entering the practice here. Henry C. Long read law

with Case & Glasse and was admitted to the bar after completing his work as superintendent of the Oswego city schools. He then moved to Leavenworth and commenced practice.

Brady: Four of this family have become members of the bar within a few years. F. M. Brady has served two terms as county attorney and is now engaged in general practice. T. M. Brady has located at Parsons; E. H. Brady at Chetopa; and May R. Brady is in the office with her brother Frank at Oswego. Each is recognized as having good legal ability.

E. B. Morgan had never done any practice till he came to Oswego. He has made a nice start in business since coming here and has ably filled the office of city attorney one term.

Henry A. Lamb entered the army soon after his admission to the bar and died in the service.

Jesse Richcreek did a little business in our court, but before gaining any standing he went west. George Bettis was elected city attorney of Oswego, but left the county before completing his term. W. H. Edmundson read law with Nelson Case. He spent a year or two practicing in the Territory. He now resides in Oswego, but is not in the practice. W. S. Hyatt had never had any practice to speak of at the bar when he was elected county attorney. He enters with zeal on the discharge of his official duties. Catherine Swope was one of the first teachers in the county high school; while there she arranged for a life partnership with W. S. Hyatt, and the two pursued their legal studies together. Catherine Hyatt became her husband's assistant when he entered on the discharge of his duties as county attorney.



## RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

### THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

On January 11, 1869, a call signed by about 20 prominent citizens of Chetopa and Oswego was furnished for publication in the *Advance and Register*, for a meeting to be held on January 21st, for the purpose of organizing a Bible society. At that time quite a large number of the citizens of the county met at the office of Dr. W. S. Newlon, in Oswego, and adopted a constitution, and elected the following permanent officers of the society: Rev. T. H. Canfield, president; J. L. Taft, vice-president; W. M. Johnson, secretary; Dr. C. M. Gilky, treasurer; and also a board of five directors. Adjourned to meet in Chetopa, on February 7th following.

At this time a meeting was held in Spaulding's Hall, at 3 o'clock P. M., at which a large congregation gathered. Addresses were made by Rev. T. H. Canfield, Rev. C. R. Rice, and others. A subscription of something over \$40 for the benefit of the society was taken up. This was the commencement of an organization which was kept up for a number of years, holding its meetings somewhat frequently, and doing very much toward furnishing the new communities with Bibles. After a few years, when the growth of several of the towns of the county had been such that each felt the need of separate organizations, the county society was discontinued, and city organizations were formed.

### Y. M. C. A.

#### OSWEGO ASSOCIATION.

The following account of the organization of the Oswego Young Men's Christian Association is taken from an address by Fred C. Wheeler, delivered at the second anniversary of the organization of the association:

"On Saturday evening, December 8, 1883, in response to invitations that morning received through the postoffice from him, there were gathered at the home of Nelson Case, in Oswego, Rev. John Elliott, Rev. H. McBirney, Fred Lee, Chas. Carpenter, M. Chidester, M. E. Diehl, Thos. O'Halloran, W. F. Thorne, and F. C. Wheeler. Mr. Case made a statement showing the need of such an organization especially adapted to reach young men, and proposed the organization of a Young Men's Christian Association. All present concurred in the views expressed, and a committee was appointed to consider and report at same place on December 12, to which time we adjourned.

"On December 12 Harry and Will Mitchell, Will Skilling, Chas. Carpenter, Rev. H. McBirney, Thos. O'Halloran, Mr. Case, and F. C. Wheeler met as per adjournment. A draft of a constitution was presented, and the matter of organization was definitely decided on. It was voted to adjourn to meet at the M. E. church, on Tuesday evening, January 1, 1884, to complete the organization. On the

evening of that date some six or eight met at the appointed place, adopted the uniform constitution provided by the national association, and organized by electing Nelson Case, president; F. C. Wheeler, vice-president; Chas. Carpenter, secretary, and Harry Mitchell, treasurer. The necessary committees were also appointed."

During its earlier years the association did more aggressive work, perhaps, than it performed at a later period. A Bible-training class was maintained for two, or three years, and did very efficient work. The young men for some time had a literary organization connected with the association. A boys' branch was organized at the opening of the second year of the work, and in that alone enough work was done to justify the organization of the association. Some years ago an outfit was purchased for a gymnasium, and a room was kept open during the subsequent life of the association. A salaried general secretary was employed a few months at one time, but with that exception the work was done entirely by the home members. For a number of years the association was somewhat intimately connected with the Library Association. Since its organization it had the following presidents and secretaries: 1884-85—president, Nelson Case; secretary, Charles T. Carpenter. 1886—Charles T. Carpenter, president; Howard Merriam, secretary. 1887—Howard Merriam and W. F. Thorne, presidents; F. G. Mitchell, secretary; 1888-89—Nelson Case, president; W. G. Mitchell and W. A. Bibbitt, secretaries. 1890—A. B. Kegg, president; Ed. M. Baldwin, secretary. 1891—W. W. Flora, president; H. H. Beard, secretary. 1892—W. W. Flora, president; Fred W. Beymer and W. B. Covalt, secretaries, 1893-94—Dr. K. P. Ashley, president.

Those who had been principally interested in the work, and on whom the responsibility of carrying it on largely rested, found it more of a burden than they thought should be borne for the results that the association was at the time accomplishing. Some of the work, which it had originally done, could now be performed through the young people's societies of the various churches. It was decided to dissolve the association early in 1895.

#### PARSONS ASSOCIATION.

The Parsons Y. M. C. A. was organized December 5, 1885, with C. F. Hodgman, president; Cyrus G. Emerson, vice-president; W. H. Martin and Thomas Clark, secretaries; and F. H. Foster, treasurer. The following year it was incorporated, and the following officers elected: M. E. Crowell, president; E. C. Read, vice-president; A. H. Whitmarsh, secretary; and F. H. Foster, treasurer. A ladies' auxiliary was organized early in the history of the association, and rendered valuable aid in furnishing rooms and giving entertainments. The most of the time during its life, the association maintained a paid general secretary. The following persons served in that capacity; Chas. L. Helmick was the first, and served from August, 1887, to February, 1889; James R. Smith succeeded him, and served to July, 1889; T. R. Breese, B. C. McQuestion, J. W. Shingley, W. Russell and — Hopper since then successively held the office. A reading-room, bath-rooms, as well as reception and parlor-rooms, were provided, and much good work was accomplished.

Perhaps about the same account might be given of the efforts at maintaining an association in Parsons, as has already been given of the Oswego association. On account of the

large number of railroad men in Parsons, the needs of an association at that point were more apparent than at any other place in the county. But the expense of maintaining it was greater than the receipts would cover, and a debt was the result. The dissolution of the association followed almost as a matter of course. Charles Husband was the general secretary for some time before the association disbanded.

#### CHETOPA ASSOCIATION.

During the month of August, 1886, steps were taken looking toward the formation of an association at Chetopa, and on September 20, 1886, a number of the members of the Oswego and Parsons associations visited Chetopa and assisted in the formation of this organization. At that time the following officers were elected: President, W. A. Shanklin; vice-president, W. H. Pinkerton; secretary, George Campbell; treasurer, T. O. Breckenridge. For a few months in 1889 John G. Lear was employed as general secretary for this and the Oswego association, giving about half of his time to each. This is the only time that a salaried officer was employed. W. S. Henry was president the second year of the organization and F. M. Smith the third year; J. P. Slaughter was the second secretary, and was succeeded by H. F. Stewart. The association a part of the time kept open a reading-room and conducted various lines of meetings. The association at this place ceased work even earlier than did those at Oswego and Parsons.

Y. W. C. A.

On January 2, 1886, at the Methodist church in Oswego, an organization of this association was effected. It kept up its work about

five years, and then for some time its members continued in an unofficial way to keep up the work. The association has never been reorganized. A training-class and a Bible class were conducted by it for several years; also a girls' Bible class. The association had the following presidents: Mrs. Allenette Cook, Mrs. Mary E. Case, Miss Sarah Crane, Miss Blanche Case and Miss Eunice Crane.

#### SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

In giving an account of the work of the Sunday-schools of the county I separate it from the account of other church work, not because I consider them a separate institution from the church, properly speaking, but because, especially in the early work in the county, there were many union schools, connected with no church in particular, and also because the Sunday-school work is one of the most important and best developed departments of church work, and is entitled to special mention as such.

I will first give an account of the schools which have been at least a part of the time classed as union (although some of them might properly be spoken of as denominational), and will then mention the denominational schools, connecting those of each denomination wherever situated in the county, instead of classifying by localities. No one can realize more than I do the imperfect history which I here present of these schools, but all the information is given which I have been able to gather. It is regretted that parties who might have furnished more definite information have failed to do so. One reason why this information is not accessible and has not been furnished, is that in many instances no record whatever has been kept of the school work, and in many

other cases records that were kept at the time have been misplaced or lost. Some of this information has been furnished me from people's memory, and of course contains more or less errors, but in the main, so far as it goes. I think it is as reliable as could be expected. All the data that is given respecting union schools has reference to their work prior to 1893, for no facts have been furnished regarding what they have done since that date. From what is here set forth in succeeding pages, some one may be able to construct a more perfect account of this important department of work.

### UNION SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

#### CHETOPA.

The first Sunday-school in the county was organized by the early settlers at Chetopa, before the war. In a letter referring to these early times Dr. Lisle says: "Mr. Bryan organized a Sunday-school sometime in 1858, which was kept up most of the time until the Rebellion." The Mr. Bryan here referred to is Rev. J. E. Bryan, then a minister of the M. E. church South, in charge of the work of the circuit including Chetopa, and in 1871 pastor of the M. E. church of Oswego, and still more recently a practicing attorney in this county. This Sunday-school was held in the school-house, an account of the building of which is given in a preceding chapter devoted to educational work in the county.

After Chetopa began to resettle at the close of the war, the first Sunday-school to be organized was in the summer of 1867, in a small frame building standing on the southeast corner of First and Maple streets, sometimes called the "Cabinet Shop," but more generally design-

nated "Bachelors' Hall." G. H. Hard was the superintendent of this school. Later, arrangements were made for holding the school in the Ephraim Doudna store building. The school was closed during the winter, and opened in the spring of 1868. James H. Crichton, Sr., father of the attorney who has lived there so long, spent a part of the summers of 1867 and 1868 at Chetopa, and assisted in superintending the school. The first Sunday in September, 1868, the school having previously been very poorly classified and organized, a reorganization was had, and Edward Johnson was elected superintendent; F. H. Mendenhall, assistant; and D. J. Doolen, secretary. Early in 1869 J. M. Cavaness was elected superintendent, and continued to serve until the organization of the denominational schools, in 1870.

#### PARSONS.

The first Sunday-school in Parsons was organized in April, 1871, by the joint efforts of Rev. G. W. Pye and Rev. H. H. Cambern. It was started and for some time maintained as a union school. It had a hard time to maintain an existence. With no permanent place of meeting, driven from vacant store buildings, offices and shops, as they were needed for other purposes, it finally found a somewhat permanent and comfortable home in Cary's Hall. T. C. Cory was its first superintendent. After a few months of service he resigned, and J. E. Wilkes succeeded him. In January, 1872, E. B. Stevens was elected superintendent; M. G. Brown was elected in 1873, and M. Wallace in 1874. During a part of this time some schools which had started as denominational schools were merged with the union. On the organization of the denominational schools this school ceased.

## OSWEGO.

The Sunday-school work in Oswego dates from the early spring of 1867, when a Sunday-school was organized in the log cabin owned and then occupied by Dr. J. F. Newlon. It stood at the northeast corner of block 26, just south of where he afterwards made his home. William Herbaugh was elected superintendent. It was kept open only during the summer, and was reorganized the following spring. It met in such vacant houses as could be secured, holding scarcely more than two or three Sundays consecutively in any one place. In the fall of 1868, when the building was erected which was afterwards donated to the county for a courthouse, the Sunday-school found therein a somewhat permanent home. From this school the denominational schools were established as follows: The Methodist in 1868, the Congregational and Presbyterian in 1870, and the Baptist in 1871.

## NEOSHO TOWNSHIP.

*Concord District, No. 16.*—The school-house in this district is now in North township, but when first built was in Neosho. In the summer of 1867 Mrs. Owens organized a Sunday-school in their house on the northeast quarter of section 5, which was maintained during that summer, and when the school-house was built a reorganization was had, locating it in that building, where it was continued for a number of years.

*New Hope District, No. 15.*—In 1869 there was a log cabin about half a mile north of where Matthewson now stands, known as the Sweet school-house. Rev. R. P. Bukey preached there frequently. In that house was started the first Sunday-school in that part of the county. Wm. McDown was its superin-

tendent. It was not long until the new school-house was built. A Sunday-school was conducted in this district during the summer months for a number of years, commencing with 1869. It was generally conducted as a Methodist Episcopal school. W. D. Bevans superintended most of the time. W. T. Carter and Rev. J. A. Harvey were also among those in charge of the work.

*Hopkins District, No. 62.*—From 1875 to 1882 a prosperous Sunday-school was conducted in this district. W. D. Bevans was one of its principal workers, and a part of the time its superintendent.

*Lone Elm District, No. 21.*—Sunday-school has been started here occasionally, but has not been regularly maintained.

*Hard Scrabble District, No. 46.*—The effort to maintain a Sunday school in this district was not so persistent as to meet with good success.

## NORTH TOWNSHIP.

*Township Association.*—In 1876 an association was formed in this township, but was not effective the following year, and the various schools in the township met and reorganized a township association on April 7, 1878, electing J. M. C. Reed president and S. L. Obenchain secretary. Since then the association has held annual meetings, sometimes more frequently.

*Woods District, No. 18.*—Organized in 1878. Superintendents: S. Stephenson, N. T. Chambers, T. J. Van Horn and F. A. Edwards.

*Spring Hill District, No. 22.*—Organized in 1874. Superintendents: Samuel Cherry, J. W. Scott, Messrs. Milligan, Wilson, Chambers and Millard.

*Heacock District, No. 32.*—Organized in

1875. Mrs. Anna Heacock was superintendent for several years; afterward I. P. Merrill.

*Franklin District, No. 55.*—Organized May, 1870, and maintained during the summer months every year since. Superintendents: G. W. Goodman, J. Harlan, E. H. Taylor, — Brandon, H. McIntosh, E. H. Wells, S. L. Obenchain, T. J. Van Horn, and Robert Toles.

*Prairie Valley District, No. 31.*—Organized in May, 1871, and maintained since. Superintendents: Philip La Cornu, William Burdit, J. G. Duval, J. M. C. Reed, R. Brown, E. C. Barker, W. B. Truax, and J. N. Hardman. For two or three years two schools were maintained at this place—one a union and one a Methodist South; one met in the forenoon and one in the afternoon.

#### WALTON TOWNSHIP.

*Salem District, No. 42.*—School was organized in this district in 1871, and has been kept open every summer since. Alex. Ables was its first superintendent. James Venable, Amos Welch and Charles Birt have been effective workers and frequently have superintended.

*Bradford District, No. 39.*—A school was organized in this district in the house of Merit Mason, in 1870, and has since been maintained nearly every year during the summer months. Among its superintendents have been J. C. Bradford, Frank J. Smith, and T. J. Rich.

#### OSAGE TOWNSHIP.

*Mount Zion District, No. 36.*—In the fall of 1867 the neighbors got together and built a log house on the northwest quarter of section 5, in township 32, of range 18, in which

to hold religious services and other meetings of a public character. A Sunday-school was organized in this house in the spring of 1868. This was the first Sunday-school in the township. Harry Beggs was superintendent. The school has been maintained ever since. In the spring of 1871 it was reorganized as a Methodist Episcopal school, which relationship has continued, that district being one of the points where that denomination has regularly held services. Rev. E. M. Bussart, William Johns, C. L. Darling, S. C. Hockett, Phelix Oliphant and Perry Nixon are some of those who have been prominent workers in this school.

*Four-Mile District, No. 38.*—The first school-house in this district was a little log building which stood in the middle of the road at the northwest corner of section 22. From this it was known as "the little log school-house in the lane." In this a Sunday-school was organized in 1870 with J. M. Armstrong, superintendent. It was reorganized in the spring of 1871, with Jacob Masters, superintendent. The school was maintained till 1883.

*Harmony Grove District, No. 30.*—A Sunday-school was organized in this district in the spring of 1870, with Mr. Pierce, superintendent, which has continued until the present—a part of the time running all the year, and a part of the time closing in the winter. It was first held in Mr. Gibson's dwelling-house on the northwest quarter of section 30. William Dick, F. H. Dienst and D. D. Lindsey were early and efficient workers here.

*Timber Hill District, No. 37.*—This Sunday-school was organized in a log school-house on the southeast corner of the Timber Hill town-site, in the spring of 1870, with Mr. Baker, superintendent. Some years ago it was organized as a German Methodist school, and as such still maintains its existence and does



good work. The Hookey, Breshler and Schrader families have been efficient workers.

*Maple Grove District, No. 102.*—This Sunday-school was organized on February 5, 1882, with J. T. McKee, superintendent, and George W. Hierronymus, assistant. It has not had a continuous existence—some years kept up, and at other times has remained dormant.

*Baptist Union Sunday-school* was organized in the Baptist church on section 23, in 1877, and was maintained there as a union school until the church was removed to Dennis.

*Sylvan Dale District, No. 79.*—A School was organized in this district in 1872, with George Anderson, superintendent. The next spring it was reorganized, with J. D. McKeever superintendent, which position he held for a number of years. S. M. Bailey was an active worker in this school while he lived in the neighborhood. The school moved to Dennis in 1883.

*Pleasant Hill District, No. 77.*—A Sunday-school was organized in the new school-house in this district in the spring of 1873, which was maintained in the place till the completion of

*Bethel Chapel*, on the southeast quarter of section 30, in township 31, range 19 (Walton township), in 1889, when it was removed to that place. It has always been recognized as a Methodist school. George W. Blake, James Woodyard and a Mr. Brown were early superintendents.

*Muddy Corner District, No. 76.*—A little box school-house stood on the southwest corner of section 24, township 31, range 17, in which a Sunday-school was organized in 1872. A new school-house was thereafter built on the southeast quarter of section 35, and named *St. John's*, in which a Sunday-school has

been maintained ever since. Israel Foster, J. B. Swart and Adam Funk were earnest workers in this school.

*Twin Mound District, No. 93.*—J. R. Douglas, John Carson and others were leading workers in a Sunday-school organized in this district in 1873. It did well for several years, but after that was maintained only at irregular times.

*Osage Township Sunday-School Association.*—This association has been maintained the longest and has been conducted with the most enthusiasm of any of the various township associations in the county. During 1871 a picnic was held on section 7, in township 32, range 18. In 1872 an organization was formed and a picnic held on the old campground on the Leroy Dick farm, in section 29, township 31, range 18. When the county association commenced to organize township associations for the purpose of holding conventions to discuss Sunday-school topics, this was one of the first townships to respond. Contrary to the wish of the county officers, however, the local workers insisted on keeping the picnic idea in the foreground, and it has ever maintained the ascendancy which it early acquired. In 1878 the ground near the northeast corner of section 20, on William Dick's farm, was secured as permanent picnic grounds, and there every summer large crowds, frequently reaching into thousands, congregate and spend a day in the woods. This gathering has proved to be a favorite resort for local politicians, giving them, as it does, a fine opportunity to meet many whose support they think it expedient to secure. The picnic is held regularly on the last Wednesday in July, and the association holds its meeting for the discussion of Sunday-school interests at Harmony Grove school-house each

spring, on the call of the president. The association is chartered, and has its grounds nicely improved. Some 18 schools, a part of which are situated in Montgomery and Neosho counties, are connected with this association.

#### MOUND VALLEY TOWNSHIP.

*Bell Mound District, No. 99.*—A Sunday-school was organized here in 1879, with M. F. Wakefield superintendent. It has ever since maintained its existence.

*Mound Valley District, No. 40.*—A Sunday-school was organized at this place in the summer of 1870, with Joseph Wilmoth as its first superintendent. It was kept up during the summer of each year, and sometimes during the winter, until the organization of the denominational schools, about 1880. J. H. Tibbitts, H. W. Savage, the Coleman families and others were active workers in the school.

*McCormick District, No. 19.*—A Sunday-school was organized in this district in the spring of 1870, with John Claspill, superintendent, and has been kept up with a good degree of regularity since then.

*Mount Triumph District, No. 63.*—A Sunday-school was organized in this district in 1883, with Mr. Robinson, superintendent. Sometimes run as a union, sometimes as a Methodist Episcopal, sometimes as a United Brethren, but several years ago was reorganized as a Protestant Methodist school.

#### LABETTE TOWNSHIP.

*Caldwell District, No. 82.*—Organized in 1882. Among its superintendents have been David Caldwell, J. B. Cosatt, J. Covalt, J. J. Decker, and Mrs. McIntosh.

*Hiatt District, No. 47.*—Organized in the spring of 1874. Superintendents: R. Birt, Mr. Baker, and Wm. Campbell.

#### LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

*Pleasant Valley District, No. 48.*—Organized in 1871. Superintendents: Tobe H. Taylor, James Morning, A. Gager, Frank Crawford, Lon Kiter, John Smith, Anna Arnold and David Beyle.

*Labette District, No. 10.*—Organized January 15, 1871. Superintendents: R. Baker, G. K. Sipple and C. Fentress.

*Liberty District, No. 17.*—Organized in 1870. Superintendents: Mr. McIntosh, G. K. Sipple, Silas Fentress, G. L. Whitnah, G. W. Giton, E. L. Pugh, J. C. Christian and R. H. Thresher.

#### MONTANA TOWNSHIP.

*Montana District, No. 13.*—The first school in Montana township was in Montana district, No. 13. The first school organized in this district was in 1868; H. M. Minor was its superintendent. It was reorganized in the spring of 1869, with Charles Gray, superintendent. Its sessions were held in an old store building a part of the time, and when they had preaching the Sunday-school services were held in the same building where the preaching took place. The location was changed from time to time, according to their opportunity to secure room. Mr. Gray remained superintendent for a number of years. A. Gager was one of the early workers in the school. Since Mr. Gray's time, among the superintendents the following have served the school: Thomas Clark, Rev. S. W. Griffin, W. F. Schoch, B. Lanham, D. Beyle, O. E. Woods and Wm. Woods.

*Shiloh District, No. 8.*—Organized 1870. Superintendents: Geo. Fagan, Andy Livesay, Nathaniel Woods, Lewis W. Crain, W. J. Webb, J. R. Youmans, Thos. Clinton, Z. Atchinson, S. D. Holmes and Mrs. Elnor E. Pierce.

## OSWEGO TOWNSHIP.

*Oak Grove District, No. 24.*—This school was organized in the log church in the spring of 1871, with Wm. Herbaugh, superintendent. The following year Mr. Bagby acted as superintendent. In 1876 it was organized in the new stone school-house, with A. Brown, superintendent. Since then the superintendents have been P. S. Hughart, J. W. Brown, J. M. Ricker, and J. W. Park.

*Stice District, No. 2.*—A Sunday-school was organized in this district in 1877; Andrew Kaho, superintendent. It has had but an irregular existence.

*Clover District, No. 23.*—A Sunday-school has been kept in this district at intervals for quite a number of years, but it has not been continuous enough to be of great force.

*Campbell District, No. 57.*—A Sunday-school was held in this school-house during the summer months during a part of the "seventies," but in later years no attempt has been made to keep it up.

*Woodruff District, No. 101.*—Soon after the building of the school-house in this district a Sunday-school was organized, with S. N. Woodruff, superintendent, but it was maintained only a year or two.

## FAIRVIEW TOWNSHIP.

*Stover District, No. 29.*—In the summer of 1870 a Sunday-school was organized in a small house on the southeast quarter of section 17, but removed to the school-house as soon as it was built, and with more or less regularity, has been maintained nearly ever since. It has generally been known as a union school, although the Methodists, as a rule, have furnished the larger part of the force that has done the work. Among its superintendents

have been I. W. Patrick, George Pfaff, John and Jerry Winbigler. The Seventh Day Adventists have also maintained a school at this point a part of the time.

*Newell District, No. 71.*—The first Sunday-school in this vicinity was organized in the McIntosh house, in the spring of 1870. A lady rode on horseback to Chetopa and secured Bibles and song-books for the school. During its stay in this place it had no regular superintendent, but different members were appointed from Sunday to Sunday to take charge. The school was taken to the school-house as soon as it was completed, where it has been maintained for the most of the time since. It has had for superintendents among others the following: A. B. Hammer, Josiah Rayburn, G. D. Fellows, Mr. Young, James Paxton and J. M. Magee.

*Bowman District, No. 12.*—Organized in 1872, and maintained only a part of the time since.

*Maple Grove District, No. 54.*—This school has had an existence more or less of the time since 1873, and has had among its superintendents Joseph Scott, Sallie Bottenfield, J. L. Williams, and John Richardson.

## MOUNT PLEASANT TOWNSHIP.

*Pioneer District, No. 59.*—The Sunday-school in this district was organized in May, 1871, with B. F. Jones, superintendent. Among other superintendents were S. M. Canaday, Joseph Vance and George Geer.

*Rayburn District, No. 52.*—The Sunday-school in this district was first organized in May, 1871, in the claim cabin of D. S. Morrison, on the southeast quarter of section 14, and was moved to the school-house when it was built. It was maintained for several years. Among

its early superintendents were Jacob Hagerman, Henry Story and George Hildreth.

*Noble District, No. 89.*—This Sunday-school was organized in April, 1874. Josiah Rayburn, Michael Noel, George Hildreth and Henry Sleath successively superintended it.

*Bell District, No. 91.*—A Sunday-school was organized in this school-house in the spring of 1875. B. Johnson, J. Bell, Sr., and J. Williams were early superintendents.

*Janes District, No. 95.*—This school was organized in April, 1879. Homer Hulse, Milo Hildreth and James Curnutt superintended it.

*Altamont District, No. 43.*—A Sunday-school was organized in a store building in Elston in 1870, with Martin Gore as superintendent. At the same time a school was conducted in Major Hokes' house, on the southeast quarter of section 36, Labette township, with Thomas D. Bickerman as superintendent. The workers connected with these schools went to make up the union school which was organized at Altamont in 1871. It was maintained until the organization of the various denominational schools, when the union schools ceased. Among those who superintended the school were A. B. Hammer, James Perry, William Thompson, I. N. Hamilton, Perry Daniels, S. J. Hershbarger and Daniel Ferrier.

#### •CANADA TOWNSHIP.

*Richland District, No. 94.*—In 1874 a Sunday-school was organized in a log house on Ola Olson's claim, by J. H. Tibbits, and he was elected superintendent. The cabin being very small and uncomfortable, an arbor of poles and brush was made, in which the school was held during the summer. A school-house was built the next winter, and in the spring the Sunday-

school was reorganized in it, with J. H. Tibbits, superintendent.

*Emmons District, No. 84.*—This Sunday-school was organized in May, 1871, at the house of James Sweet, where it was kept till the spring of 1873, when it was organized at the school-house, where it has been held ever since. Buel Crone was the first superintendent, and B. H. Sharp also filled that position in later years. James Sweet and Joseph Kearns have been active and efficient workers.

#### HOWARD TOWNSHIP.

*Dresser District, No. 51.*—Organized in 1876, with James Bennett superintendent, and maintained up to the time of the organization of the Congregationalists and Methodists.

*McKenna District, No. 97.*—R. V. Shipp, Mrs. McKenna and James Hunt were associated with others in the organization of the school in this district, in 1877. Among the superintendents of this school have been R. V. Shipp, Mr. Mills, Ella Hunt, James Hunt and Mrs. Mary McKenna.

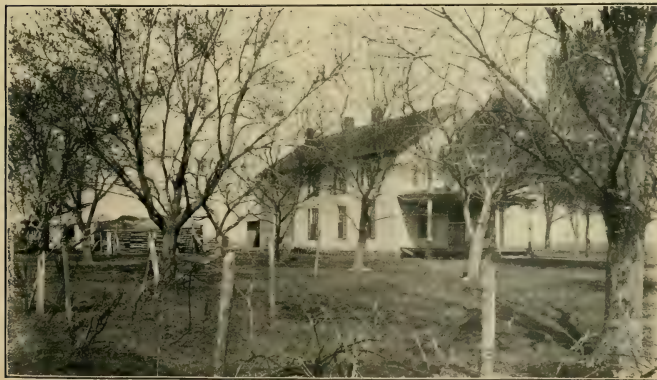
*Trenton District, No. 67.*—In the spring of 1871 a Sunday-school was organized in the house of John McClintick, where it was maintained until the erection of the school-house in this district, when it was removed to that place. J. M. Hart, Jacob French, W. J. Millikin and E. B. Baldwin have superintended it at different times.

*Snow Hill District, No. 35.*—A school was maintained at this point for a number of years, commencing in 1870. W. J. Herrod was at one time superintendent and an active worker in the school.

*Blackford District, No. 6.*—As early as 1874 a school was organized at this point, and maintained thereafter with a fair degree of



A VIEW OF THE COUNTY POOR FARM FROM THE NORTHEAST.



A VIEW OF THE COUNTY POOR FARM FROM THE SOUTHEAST.





regularity. Mr. Geyer was its first superintendent; W. J. Millikin and George Ash have also superintended.

*Valeda.*—A union school was organized in the Congregational church, in the spring of 1887, since which time it has been regularly maintained during the summer. W. J. Millikin was its first superintendent; following him there have been William Preston, V. Wallingford, Samuel Nelson and Mrs. McKennan.

*Lieb District, No. 85.*—Organized in the spring of 1873. George H. Goodwin and W. J. Millikin were early superintendents.

#### ELM GROVE TOWNSHIP.

*Ripon District, No. 40.*—A Sunday-school was organized in March, 1870, in the house of Dr. D. P. Lucas, on the northwest quarter of section 12, township 35, with Rachel Lucas, superintendent, and afterward was held in a house belonging to Robert Marrs, standing on the southwest quarter of section 10; and was also held a part of the time in J. H. Jones' house, on the northeast quarter of section 11. Thos. Summerfield followed Mrs. Lucas as superintendent. In 1872 it was reorganized in the school-house, and Thomas H. Bruner was superintendent; other superintendents, T. D. Bickham, Mrs. Cook, Henry Faurot and Mrs. B. M. Smith.

*Starr District, No. 50.*—Organized in 1871. Wesley Faurot was one of the leading workers in the Sunday-school since its organization.

*Ellis District, No. 45.*—In 1870 a Sunday-school was taught in Simon Bradfield's house, on section 4, and a part of the time in Thomas Dowell's, on the southwest quarter of section 24. From the time the school-house was built a school has been maintained most of the time during the summer months. J. B. Ellis and

Timothy Kay superintended a good share of the time.

*Rose Hill District, No. 109.*—Organized in 1885. Mrs. Lyda Edmundson, Jesse Edmundson, Mrs. Anna Bickham, Rev. A. Allison and Mrs. I. C. Wall successively superintended.

*Edna District, No. 73.*—In 1872 a Sunday-school was held in Peter Goodwin's granary, on the northwest quarter of section 21, with George Goodwin, superintendent. In April, 1873, the school was reorganized in the new school-house, with W. J. Millikin, superintendent; he was followed by W. R. Lackey, Owen Wimmer and Mr. Mills. The school was always a prosperous one, and continued in active existence until the organization of the denominational schools.

*Valley District, No. 72.*—A prosperous Sunday-school has been maintained in this district a good portion of the time for a number of years. Mrs. C. W. Gray was a faithful worker, and superintended the school a part of the time.

#### HACKBERRY TOWNSHIP.

*Foland District, No. 70.*—A Sunday-school was organized in this school-house in 1873. Chandler Stevenson, Samuel C. Coulter, Mrs. G. W. Leap, J. F. Holman, John Foland and Samuel McCullough are among the number closely identified with the school's growth. Samuel C. Coulter, A. H. Mickey, G. W. Jenkins and J. F. Holman were some of the superintendents. The school has not been kept up since 1888.

*Baylor District, No. 98.*—As early as 1870 Samuel C. Coulter, T. J. Calvin, Mr. and Mrs. S. Lyon, E. G. Eggers and other workers organized a Sunday-school at the house of S. Lyon, and elected him superintendent. It continued during that year, but was not reorgan-

ized again until the school-house was completed. In 1874 it was again organized, and held in the school-house. Its superintendents have been W. G. Baylor, Samuel C. Coulter, T. J. Calvin, G. W. Jenkins, E. G. Eggers, Mrs. S. Lyon and Dr. Owens. With 1884 the school ceased as a union school and was merged in the school organized by the Baptists in their new church, and known as the Pleasant Hill Sunday-school.

*Liggett District, No. 87.*—This school was originally a part of the one organized in Dr. Lucas' house, in Elm Grove township, and which thereafter became the Ripon school. When the school-house were built two Sunday-schools were formed, one in the Ripon school-house and one in the Liggett school-house. Among the early superintendents of the latter school were Ephraim Welch, Mr. Hoy and Wm. Liggett. This was maintained as a union school until the erection of the Cecil church, when it was merged in the Methodist school organized in that building.

*Bishop District, No. 7.*—This school was organized May 1, 1871. Abner DeCou, William Newcomb, H. G. Pore, Alexander Bishop, H. W. Sandusky and G. A. Cooper were among those most prominently identified with its organization and early management. H. W. Sandusky was its first superintendent, and he was followed by G. W. Jenkins, G. A. Cooper, W. S. Bishop, Alexander Bishop, Miss Rose Dorland, W. W. Bradbury, A. M. Newman and Mrs. Catharine Miller.

*Lockard District, No. 28.*—The Sunday-school in this district was organized in the spring of 1873, by many earnest workers, among whom may be named George Tilton and wife, Thomas Sharp, S. L. Whiting, H. J. Reece, W. F. Legg, Mrs. Flora B. Illingsworth and Mrs. Clara Wimmer. Its superintendents

have been A. B. Hammer, Thomas Sharp, S. L. Whiting, W. F. Legg, W. G. Fautrot and Mrs. F. B. Illingsworth.

*Bartlett District, No. 110.*—This school was organized May 1, 1887, with S. L. Whiting, superintendent. He has served as such since its organization, excepting in 1891, when Mrs. Allie Crane superintended.

*Lake Creek Sunday-school, District No. 60.*—In the spring of 1872, Mrs. Julia Knight, G. W. Jenkins, W. W. Baty, A. D. Robinson, Mrs. Warren Chamberlain and several others, feeling the need of religious services, organized a Sunday-school at the home of H. D. Knight, with Mrs. Julia Knight as superintendent. The next year the school was moved to the Lake Creek school-house, District No. 60. and Mrs. Knight was again elected superintendent. Those who succeeded her as superintendent while it remained a union school in the school-house were: G. W. Jenkins, W. W. Baty, William Priest, Mrs. Warren Chamberlain, J. N. Allison and W. F. Legg.

#### RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

*Gore District, No. 3.*—In the fall of 1866 a few of the settlers in that neighborhood organized a Sunday-school in James Rice's cabin, with Mrs. Rice as superintendent. The next summer it was reorganized, with the same superintendent, and maintained during the summer. In the spring of 1868 it was reorganized in Orville Thompson's store building, with Thompson Palmer, superintendent. After this it was held in the school-house in that district. Benjamin A. Rice was superintendent in 1869. Other superintendents have been John F. Hill, Solomon Pierson and L. Baker. It was merged into the Methodist Sunday-school at Fletcher Chapel on the organization of the latter.

*Watson District, No. 5.*—In the spring of 1870 a school was organized in a claim cabin on J. C. McKnight's place on the southeast quarter of section 20, with T. J. Calvin, superintendent. A part of the time it was held in a log cabin on R. T. Goudy's place. It was reorganized in the school-house upon its completion, with Samuel F. Doolen, superintendent. From 1872 till his death, in 1878, James C. Watson superintended, and through his energy and devotion to the school it always did effective work. J. M. Morgan superintended for a time after Mr. Watson's death.

*Breese District, No. 25.*—A school has been maintained during the summer months in this district most of the time from 1872 until the erection of Fletcher Chapel. A. J. Swagerty and Mr. Hardaway were early superintendents.

*Closser District, No. 61.*—Organized 1875. Superintendents: F. M. Mendenhall, Samuel Wade, D. M. Closser and H. W. Cook.

*Piety Hill District, No. 100.*—Organized 1875, and maintained a good portion of the time since. W. G. Hoover has been one of the workers in this school.

*Cook District, No. 103.*—A school has been kept up in this district a part of the time of late years. H. W. Cook has been one of the workers.

### COLORED SCHOOLS.

#### OSWEGO.

In April, 1871, Dr. D. B. Crouse, with several teachers from the Methodist Sunday-school, got quite a number of colored people together in the Congregational church, and organized them into a Sunday-school, which was conducted the most of the time during that summer. During a part of the next year Rev. F. A. Armstrong got a few of the colored peo-

ple together on Sundays and taught them from the Bible.

*The African Methodist Episcopal Sunday-School* was organized in July, 1877, by Nelson Case and Alexander Mackie, who superintended it alternately for about three years, after which Nelson Case superintended alone till 1886. It was entirely conducted by white officers and teachers till about 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Case, Dr. Newlon, Mr. Mackie and one or two other white teachers, assisted in the school till the colored people had learned to read and were able, in a measure, to teach. At the request of Mr. Case, the school at one time, before Mr. Nelson took charge of it, elected John Booka superintendent; nevertheless, the management of the school remained in the hands of the white teachers. From 1886 up to 1891 Edward Nelson was superintendent most of the time. In 1892 Miss Lillie Booka was superintendent. Henry Simley was elected superintendent in 1893 and has served ever since.

*The Second Baptist Sunday-School.*—As soon as this denomination inclosed their church, in 1882, they organized a Sunday-school, and have maintained it, with few interruptions, since. Mrs. Mary E. Case and Miss Sarah Crane assisted them in their work for several years. The school has had the following superintendents: A. J. Harper, G. W. Parks, M. A. Sumner, Thomas Scott, T. H. Scaltmar, G. D. Watson and A. L. Williams. Mr. Parks has been superintendent on two or three occasions, and in all has served quite a number of years.

*Mount Pleasant Baptist.*—This school was formerly located a few miles northeast of Oswego, but now has its home in the city. Superintendents: 1892, Mrs. Lue Butler; 1893-95, Mrs. Martha Robinson; 1896-1901, E. Richardson.

*Second Methodist Episcopal.*—This school was organized in 1880. Henry Smiley was superintendent from its organization until 1892, with the exception of 1887-88, when George W. Winn held the office. Miss Oliva Porter was elected superintendent at the opening of 1893 and has served in that capacity ever since. Mrs. Mary E. Case and Miss Sarah Crane taught in this school for a number of years.

#### MONTANA.

June 20, 1880, a Sunday-school was organized in the Presbyterian church for the colored people, of which the officers of the Presbyterian Sunday-school were in charge. It was maintained during that summer only.

#### CHETOPA.

In the fall of 1873 the Sunday-school workers of Chetopa organized a school among the colored people. It met from time to time in nearly all the churches in town. It was conducted entirely by white officers and teachers. Dr. C. Humble superintended until he went away, in 1877; after that John A. Lough and Mrs. Julia A. Knight superintended. After the organization of the denominational schools in the colored churches this school was given up.

*Second Methodist Episcopal.*—Rev. Robert Rector, pastor, secured the organization of this school in 1881. Its superintendents have been: George W. Winn, Mr. Faghem, Mrs. Frances Wilson and Mrs. Margaret Clarady. The last mentioned was elected superintendent in 1894, and she has served very acceptably ever since. Notwithstanding many discouragements the school has been quite prosperous and has helped supply its numbers with good literature.

*African Methodist Episcopal.*—Organized about 1881,—perhaps a few years later. Superintendents: Harrison McMillan and Nelson Williamson.

*Baptist.*—The colored folk in Chetopa have two Baptist Sunday-schools, one connected with the Little Flock Baptist church, and the other allied with the Bethlehem Baptist church.

#### PARSONS.

*African Methodist Episcopal.*—Soon after the organization of the A. M. E. church in Parsons, the pastor, Rev. J. H. Daniels, also secured the organization of the Sunday-school. The school dates from May, 1876. Among its superintendents have been: S. O. Clayton, J. L. Crow and Charles A. Morris.

*Second, or New Hope, Baptist.*—On May 28, 1876, Rev. Thomas Wilson secured the organization of a Sunday-school in connection with this church. Superintendents: James Griffin, James Walker, E. W. Dorsey and J. E. Johnson.

*Mount Pleasant Baptist.*—Superintendents: George Harts, G. R. Westbrooks, James Griffin and J. T. Hays.

*Mount Zion Baptist.*—This Sunday-school is held irregularly.

### DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

#### BAPTISTS.

*Labette.*—The school was organized in the spring of 1875, and has had the following superintendents: R. K. Jones, John Richardson, William E. Crawford, J. P. Christy, W. V. McDonell, T. J. Reel, J. S. McLain, Elisha Richardson, E. L. Christy, J. C. Christian, Jennie Crawford and John Wiggins.

*Chetopa.*—Prior to 1881 the Baptists and Christians had maintained a union Sunday-

school. In 1881, with the assistance of Rev. J. P. Ash, a Baptist Sunday-school was organized, with J. C. Witt, superintendent. Following Mr. Witt as superintendent there have been F. M. Smith, Mrs. M. E. Stevens, Miss Eva Merrill, Robert Williams, Lewis Leak, Carl Simons, Mrs. W. S. Park, J. A. Shuck and Mrs. James Harvey.

*Osteo.*—Organized January 1, 1871, in an old store building on the west side of block 39, with D. E. Bent, superintendent. Other superintendents have been: Dr. J. Spruill, Henry Glitz, J. N. Miles, Z. Eaton, Merritt Read, A. C. Baker, N. A. Douglas, Porter Sawyer, William P. Steel, Nellie Harrison, Rev. C. N. H. Moore, A. T. Dickerman, E. S. Ellis, E. A. Karr, G. A. Cooper, Eva Terrill and Marion Parks.

*Altamont.*—Organized in the spring of 1883. Superintendents: Morris Bayless, E. Estes, George Hildreth, A. I. Ross, J. Self, Cyrus Baker and Bessie Hopps. Some of these have held office two or three different times, while others have served several years in succession.

*Dennis.*—The Baptist Sunday-school in Dennis was organized April 2, 1883, and came almost entirely from the Baptist union school, which was transferred from the country to town. William Scott, John Garrison, Mr. Payne, and G. W. Everhart have been faithful workers in this school.

*Barton.*—This school has existed since the erection of the church, in 1885. J. H. Tibbets and family have been among its best workers.

*Pleasant Hill Sunday-School.*—The Baptists having completed their church building, in 1885 they organized a Sunday-school with Rev. C. T. Floyd as superintendent. He has been followed in the superintendency by W.

W. Lewellen, ——— Witt, H. J. Schock and Mrs. A. Austin.

*Persons.*—This school was first organized in the city hall in 1874, with J. B. Stilwell superintendent, and an attendance of about 10 scholars. During the year it disbanded, and was not reorganized till about 1878, when J. W. Fee was elected superintendent. The school at this time numbered about 50. W. W. Neighbour succeeded Mr. Fee, and was succeeded by C. F. Hodgman, and he by I. J. Uzzell. W. C. Main served from September, 1886, until 1893, being succeeded by F. W. Flitton, who held the office until 1896, when I. J. Uzzell was again elected. Mrs. J. N. Kidd was superintendent in 1897, and E. S. Ellis, who took her place, is the superintendent at present. The average attendance is about 140.

*Mound Valley.*—The Baptists of Mound Valley worked in the union school until the erection of the church, in 1882, since which time they have had a school of their own. Among the superintendents have been H. W. Savage, P. G. Shanklin, J. H. Elmore and William Wilson. William Wilson was succeeded at the end of 1893 by D. S. Coleman, who held the office two years; in 1895-97 H. W. Savage was superintendent, in 1898-99 D. S. Coleman, and in 1900 W. J. Wilson was elected.

*Edna.*—In the spring of 1883 the Baptists organized a Sunday-school at the Hawkins school-house, in District No. 92, where it was conducted until their church building was erected at Kingston, when it was removed to that place. In 1887 the church was moved to Edna, and of course the Sunday-school with it. The school has had the following superintendents: J. Reasor, Rev. G. H. Goodwin,

Julius Goodwin, J. W. Reasor, J. Reasor, Rev. T. M. Cooper, G. W. Reasor and Lewis Goodwin.

#### GERMAN BAPTISTS OR DUNKARDS.

*Altamont.*—A Sunday-school was organized in March, 1897, which has been maintained continuously and has done good work. H. J. Trapp is superintendent.

*Parsons.*—A Sunday-school was organized at this point in 1895. Clay Newton is superintendent.

#### CHRISTIANS.

*Chetopa.*—Until 1883 the Christians had united with the Baptists in holding a Sunday-school. In March, 1883, a Christian school was organized, and Dr. W. J. Latta and Mrs. E. S. Smith have been the superintendents.

*Parsons.*—Organized in 1879. Superintendents: C. R. Millard, Fred Evans, Dr. John Tinder, T. L. Trotter and J. S. Vance.

*Central.*—Upon the organization of the Central Christian church in Parsons, in 1890, a Sunday-school was also formed, which has been maintained ever since.

*Oswego.*—The Christian Sunday-school was organized in the court-house, in the spring of 1876. Superintendents: 1876-77, John Overdeer; 1878-81, D. H. May; 1882-85, H. C. Draper; 1886-95, David Jennings; 1896-97, E. G. Smith; 1898-1901, H. O. Hurst.

*Mound Valley.*—The Sunday-school is some twelve or fifteen years old. Since 1892 the superintendents have been: D. O. Larabee, Mrs. Kate Ellege, Levi Wilmoth, Alvah Shick, G. N. Matthews and Miss Lizzie Prescott.

*Elm City.*—Among those who have superintended this school are S. P. Waugh and Perry Allen.

#### CONGREGATIONAL.

*Oswego.*—Organized January 23, 1870, and maintained most of the time since. However, there have been two or three occasions when for several months at a time no school has been maintained. The school has no continuous record, and I find no one who remembers definitely who its officers have been, but the following list of superintendents is probably nearly complete: Dr. W. S. Newlon, Dr. W. E. Austin, W. M. Johnson, Dr. W. S. Newlon, Dr. H. J. Martin, O. Whitney, C. U. Dorman, Mrs. Louise Morrison, Burton Thorpe, J. D. H. Reed, Rev. Park A. Bradford and wife and C. E. Coleman. During several years past, a sort of mission Sunday-school has been conducted in the Congregational church under the superintendency of Dr. W. S. Newlon.

*Parsons.*—Organized July 20, 1873. Superintendents: P. M. Griffin, A. H. Ayers, I. Dickson, A. P. Wilson, E. C. Ward, J. H. Mosaic, G. W. Ragland, E. C. Reed and Arthur Reed.

*Deerton.*—On the completion of the church, in 1880, a Sunday-school was organized, which was maintained until the church was moved to Valeda, in 1886. Rev. James Cooper superintended it while he was pastor.

#### UNIVERSALIST.

During the time the Universalists had an organization and sustained preaching services in Oswego, they also maintained a Sunday-school, of which John F. Hill was superintendent.

#### PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.

*Parsons.*—The rector of the church at Parsons also superintends the Sunday-school.



## ADVENTIST.

*Oswego.*—Since the establishment of their church in Oswego, this denomination has maintained a Sabbath-school. Mrs. Sadie McVicar and Mrs. Jessie Wells have been superintendents. Schools have also been held at several other places in the county, but I have not been furnished with information in regard to them.

## UNITED BRETHREN.

*Parsons.*—Organized in 1876, with Abraham Cary as superintendent. Since then the following persons have served in that capacity: W. F. Grierson, — Butler, A. B. Hacker, Mrs. Sandercook, Joseph Ross, Mrs. M. Portram, James Terrell and T. M. Mathis.

*Union District, No. 69.*—Organized in 1870, with Joseph Vance as superintendent, and maintained until 1874.

*Dennis.*—The United Brethren Sunday-school was organized in 1882, and came mainly from the Sylvan Dale and Four-Mile schools; Alvin Miller was its first superintendent. It is maintained with a fair degree of prosperity. J. D. McKeever and Noah Huff are reported as having superintended since Mr. Miller.

*Mortimer.*—On the completion of the church at this point in 1892, a Sunday-school was organized which has had for superintendents: J. T. Mortimer, G. A. Waid, M. L. Mortimer and M. E. Sparks; M. L. Mortimer being the superintendent at this writing.

*Mound Valley and Valeda.*—The schools of this denomination at these points have not been very regular and permanent. Among those who have served as superintendent are: Watson Chrisman, A. J. Bessy, C. E. Porter and Charles Oakleaf.

*Hackberry Chapel.*—This school was organized in the Hyatt school-house in 1881. John Magie and his son and daughter, Morton and Sarah Magie, superintended until about 1890; then A. M. Harshaw held that position. After the completion of the chapel in 1893, the school was moved into it, since which time it has had the following superintendents: John Riddick, Anna Micky and Joseph Ohles.

## EVANGELICAL.

*Dennis.*—As soon as this denomination completed its home of worship in Dennis, in 1887, a Sunday-school was organized with J. Eisenhood as superintendent. The school has had a continuous existence, and, following Mr. Eisenhood, its superintendents have been: D. M. Mowrey, W. W. Blake, Frank Deinst, Frank Harper, Charles Underkoffler, Curtis Webb, Rolla Blake, H. L. Austin and F. C. Petrie, Jr.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

*Oswego.*—The first denominational Sunday-school to be organized in the county was the first Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school of Oswego. In the summer of 1868 the Methodists first organized a school, of which Ansel Gridley, Sr., was superintendent. This, like all the other Sunday-schools of that time, was run only during the warm weather; it closed before the cold weather of winter came on. This school as now conducted claims an existence only from Sunday, April 9, 1869, when it was again organized, since which time it has had an uninterrupted existence, and since the time when Mr. Case took the superintendency the school has not missed a single session. It is by over a year the oldest school that now has an existence in the county. At the organiza-

tion of the school, on April 9, 1869. Ansel Gridley, Sr., was again elected superintendent; he served as such till September 18, 1870, when Nelson Case, having been elected superintendent, first took charge of the school. Mr. Case then served continuously a little over fifteen years; he tendered his resignation on September 28, 1885, and it was accepted on October 5. The pastor, Rev. J. A. Hyden, superintended from this time till the close of the year. W. F. Thorne superintended during 1886, and Rev. J. B. Ford, the pastor, during 1887. At the close of 1887 Nelson Case was again elected superintendent, and since January 1, 1888, has continued in that position. The school was organized in Crouse's Hall, on lot 5 in block 39, where it held its sessions during the summer of 1869; the following winter it met in two or three different places—a part of the time in Wells' Hall. In the summer of 1870 the new church building was erected, and as soon as it was inclosed the school commenced meeting in it. In the fall of 1870 the superintendent instituted a teachers' meeting, which has been maintained weekly since. Normal classes have also been conducted in connection with the school work for several years.

*Chetopa.*—Organized July 17, 1870, with J. M. Cavaness, superintendent, who served until July, 1872, when W. W. Sweet was elected superintendent. In January, 1873, L. J. Van Landingham was elected, and served three years; he was followed by S. B. Sloan. In 1877 Mr. Cavaness was elected, and served, with the exception of a year or two when D. O. Ditzler superintended, till 1886, when he went into the ministry. Following him, B. S. Edwards superintended until 1889. In that year Mr. Cavaness was again placed in charge and continued there until 1899, when he was suc-

ceeded by Robert A. Lough, who is the present incumbent.

*Montana.*—The Presbyterians having organized their school upon the completion of their church, in 1878, the Methodists then organized a denominational school, the two having theretofore been conducted as a union school in the school-house.

*Altamont.*—Organized in 1884. Superintendents: O. P. Van Slyke, J. O. King, Arthur J. Rust, W. J. Lough, P. H. Riepie, E. D. Keinze, Mrs. Lucy Best, C. M. Doughman, E. J. Kinzer and Samuel McClelland.

*Fairview.*—A Sunday-school was organized at this appointment in the school-house before the church was erected in 1899; upon the completion of the edifice, it was organized as a Methodist school in the church on May 7, 1899. James Paxton was superintendent to the close of 1900. Miss Alice Ball is the present superintendent.

*Parsons.*—In the summer of 1873 a Methodist Sunday-school was organized, with the pastor, Rev. C. R. Rice, superintendent. Owing to the straitened circumstances and unorganized condition of the work, the school did not maintain a continuous existence, but part of the time united with other workers in carrying on a union school. Besides Rev. C. R. Rice, the early superintendents were: M. Wallace, M. G. Brown, and J. W. Cowles. In January, 1876, T. H. Cunningham was elected superintendent, and continued to act as such until the close of 1890. In January, 1891, J. L. Kennerer was elected superintendent, and in January, 1892, Dr. M. E. Wolf was elected, his term concluding with the close of 1893. Elmer T. Mendal served during 1894, 1895 and 1896, and since then O. F. Pennywitt has been the superintendent, with the exception of

a few weeks, when George H. Olds held that position.

*Center Chapel.*—Upon the completion of this church building, in the spring of 1887, a Sunday-school was at once organized therein. It was conducted as a union school until the close of 1890, with the following superintendents: Mrs. M. E. Casky, A. W. Meador, and F. M. Morrison. In January, 1891, it was organized as a Methodist school, with F. M. Morrison, superintendent; in January, 1892, W. E. Snyder succeeded him.

*Labette.*—Organized in 1876. Superintendents: 1875, J. K. Sipple; 1877-84, J. B. Payne; 1885, J. E. Williams; 1886, J. B. Payne; 1887-92, A. C. Lamm. Since 1892 the superintendents have been: Leslie Scott, Leslie Piatt, Allen Piatt, William Watson and Ethelda Reedy.

*Stover.*—The Methodists have maintained a Sunday-school as one of the features of their church work at this appointment. Royal Davis is the present superintendent.

*Dresser District, No. 51.*—The Methodist school at this point was organized in the spring of 1883, and was maintained until the fall of 1886, at which time the class was changed from this to Valeda. W. J. Millikin was superintendent the first two years, after which a man with the same name, excepting that his name is spelled with an "e" instead of an "i" in the last syllable (W. J. Milliken), superintended.

*Mound Valley.*—Organized in the fall of 1880, by E. A. Graham. Superintendents: J. J. Decker, A. B. Hammer, R. W. Simpson, O. B. Moore, Isaac Hill, Alexander Moore and E. A. Graham. Since 1892 the superintendents have been as follows: 1893-94, James Beggs; 1895, J. D. Gillespie; 1896-97, E. A. Graham; 1898, James Beggs; 1899, J. F. Bottriff; 1900-01, A. J. Lovett.

*Fletcher Chapel.*—When this church was inclosed, in the fall of 1883, the Sunday-school was moved from the Breese school-house to it. Solomon Pierson was first superintendent. Of those who succeeded him I have not been furnished a list, but understand that among them were Fannie Kirby and R. A. Hill.

*Hopewell.*—This school has ever been known as the "Evergreen," from the fact that while most of the schools in the country closed during the winter months, this was kept running the year round, from its first organization. It was organized in April, 1871, in a granary on the place of James Beggs, and was afterward held in a dwelling-house until the Henderson school-house was completed, when it was removed to that building, where it was held until Hopewell church was completed, since which time its home has been in that structure. From its organization until 1884, James Beggs was its superintendent, with the exception of one year, when George McDole filled that place. During the period between 1884 and 1892 it had several superintendents, among whom were L. C. Masters, W. T. Beggs, M. Daniels and James Monroe. Since 1892 the following named persons have held the office: 1893-94, Nelson Drenner; 1895-96, Mrs. Ella Daniels; 1897-98, J. A. Jamison; 1899, Mrs. E. J. Phillips; 1900-01, E. M. Stotts.

*Pleasant Hill.*—Organized in 1890, and has had for superintendents: James Woodyard, Mrs. Barker and James Venable.

*Excelsior.*—During the earlier history of the county, the Methodists held preaching services in several of the school-houses in Mound Valley and Osage townships, and many of the schools that were classed as union were really Methodist Sunday-schools. Of one of these schools J. W. Morain was superintendent a

number of years. When the Excelsior church was erected in 1891, these appointments and schools were consolidated, and a Methodist Sunday-school was organized at the Excelsior church at the opening of 1892. I have not been furnished with a full list of its superintendents, but among them have been W. H. Brown, Francis Edgar and Emma Morain.

*Edna.*—Almost from the first organization of Sunday-school work in Edna, it was largely under the control of the Methodists; but it was not till they went into the new church, in the spring of 1883, that the Methodists organized a distinctively denominational school. The following persons have superintended the school: E. B. Baldwin, L. Powell, H. S. Wimmer and Charles A. Long. The last named gentleman is still the incumbent.

*Angola.*—W. H. Troxson has been superintendent of this school since 1898.

*Bartlett.*—After the completion of the church at this point in 1893, a Sunday-school was organized therein, and has since been maintained; it has had the following superintendents: S. L. Whiting, I. G. Wiley, Mrs. Belle Cellars and I. E. Ross.

*Matthewson.*—This school was organized in the new church on its completion in 1894. Its superintendents have been: J. T. Marshall, Mrs. Rosa Meador, N. D. Sturm, Mrs. W. D. Harry and Mrs. O. Baker.

*Cecil.*—As soon as the Methodist church at Cecil was inclosed, the Sunday-school which had been previously conducted at the Liggett school-house was moved to the church; this was done in March, 1883. J. N. Thompson was its first superintendent, and since then there have been J. D. Lombard, J. P. Lewman, Lydia A. Owens, Noah E. Barrick and Elizabeth Laman.

#### PRESBYTERIAN.

*Mound Valley.*—Organized December 7, 1884; Dr. L. T. Strother, superintendent; 48 scholars, divided into eight classes. The school has been maintained ever since. C. M. Brown superintended for a year or two. Dr. L. T. Strother then had charge of the school until 1896, when he was succeeded by J. F. Wise, who served to the close of 1898. C. M. Watson has been superintendent since January, 1899.

*Chetopa.*—Organized July 17, 1870, with C. S. Montague, superintendent, and on August 25, 1872, Dr. C. Humble was elected superintendent. He continued to serve until he went away, in 1877. Following him the school has been superintended by C. H. McCreery, S. O. Barnes, Fred. Allen, Jesse M. Morgan, Julia R. Knight, Arnold D. Robison, Nelson E. Allen, J. Harry Evans and A. B. Crosby.

*Parsons.*—Organized in December, 1872, with Harry L. Gosling, superintendent. Succeeding him there have been the following superintendents: M. B. Park, I. N. McCreery, G. C. Hitchcock, S. M. Cambern, Frank Mulford, S. A. Scott, F. L. Schaub, W. H. Martin, J. L. Morrison, W. Aikenhead, M. J. McKnight and E. H. McCreery. M. J. McKnight is the present incumbent.

*Oswego.*—Organized in May, 1870, with Cornelius V. Monfort superintendent. He was followed by J. J. Browne, J. W. Monfort, E. B. Newton, Alexander Mackie, Chas. Coit, Andrew Mackie, Albert A. Smith, R. P. Carpenter, Fred C. Wheeler, Henry L. McCune, Fred. W. Keller, E. P. Mossman, J. M. Berry, W. C. Mitchell, T. E. Tregemba and F. S. Mitchell.

*Montana.*—When the Presbyterian church

was built at Montana, in 1878, the Sunday-school was at once organized therein, with James Morning as superintendent. The school was maintained irregularly, and both the church and Sunday-school have been discontinued for some years past.

*Lake Creek.*—The Lake Creek Presbyterian church having been built, the Sunday-school, which had been maintained at the school-house, was removed to it, in 1884, where it was opened as a Presbyterian school, and the union school was discontinued. In 1893 the church and Sunday-school were removed to Bartlett. The superintendents of the school, while in the Lake Creek Presbyterian church, were: A. D. Robison, Thomas E. Baty, Mrs. J. H. Cellars, Irwin A. Robinson and again Thomas E. Baty.

*Bartlett.*—In 1893 the Presbyterian church was removed from its original location at Lake Creek to Bartlett, and Sunday-school work was regularly taken up at the new place. The superintendents have been: J. L. Goldsmith, H. J. Reece, Thomas E. Baty and Charles A. Smith.

*Edna.*—This school was organized in their church in Kingston, in 1879, where it was continued until the church was moved to Edna, in 1887. John T. Watt was superintendent while the school remained at Kingston and for a year after it was moved to Edna. In 1889 H. Allen was superintendent. No school was maintained during 1890 and 1891. It was reorganized in January, 1892, with J. T. Watt as superintendent. Mr. Watt's superintendency has been renewed on several occasions. There have been, perhaps, two or three others who have at times served as superintendent, one of whom is J. F. Holten. The membership of the school is about 45.

*Altamont.*—The Sunday-school work has

not been continuously maintained in the church at this point. I have not been able to get definite facts about the work, but learn, however, that J. O. King and A. B. Roller were superintendents some of the time prior to 1896, and since that time B. L. Dennison has served.

*The Chetopa United Presbyterian Sunday-School* was organized in Thomas' Hall in May, 1871, and on the completion of the church building in the fall of that year, the Sunday-school there found its home, where it has had a continuous existence to the present time, meeting in the morning before preaching, except for a short time, when it was held immediately after preaching. Two features of this school are worthy of special commendation, the first being the fact that nearly all the congregation is in the Sunday-school, thus giving it probably the largest per cent. of adult attendance of any school in the county; the other item referred to is a mission collection on nearly every Sunday. Rev. J. C. McKnight has continuously served as Bible-class teacher from the organization of the school. John Torrance and William Wade have been successful teachers respectively of the classes for young men and young women. T. J. Calvin was the first superintendent, and held the position for ten years, from 1871 to 1881. Succeeding him were the following parties: Samuel Wade six months, I. N. Anderson three years, John Torrance five years, David Burnside one year, Mrs. Robert McCaw one year. Mrs. R. J. Stewart, the next incumbent, served several years to the close of 1893; she was succeeded by A. P. Free, D. Burnside, John Torrance, and William Wade, several of whom served a number of years. William Wade is the present superintendent.

## COUNTY SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS.

In the spring of 1872 several of the Sunday-school workers of Chetopa joined in issuing a call for a meeting to form a county Sunday-school association. Pursuant to this call, quite a number met in the Presbyterian church in Chetopa, on March 21, 1872, and effected a temporary organization by electing J. M. Cavaness temporary president and C. S. Montague temporary secretary. A constitution was adopted, and the following officers elected: President, I. W. Patrick; secretary, C. S. Montague; treasurer, T. J. Calvin; executive committee, J. M. Cavaness, Nelson Case, J. F. Hill and Amy B. Howard. Meetings have been held annually, with two exceptions, and several years two or more meetings have been held. No meeting was held in either 1888 or 1890. The annual meetings to the end of 1892 were held as follows: Oct. 15, 1872, Oswego; Oct. 21, 1873, Chetopa; Sept. 23, 1874, Oswego; Sept. 26, 1875, Chetopa; Sept. 27, 1876, Parsons; Sept. 19, 1877, Oswego; Sept. 18, 1878, Mound Valley; Sept. 22, 1879, Labette; Sept. 21, 1880, Montana; Oct. 6, 1881, Oswego; March 21, 1882, Chetopa; May 3, 1883, Mound Valley; May 7, 1884, Altamont; May 21, 1885, Labette; May 12, 1886, Altamont; Oct. 5, 1887, Mound Valley; Jan. 3, 1889, Edna; March 17, 1891, Oswego; Feb. 29, 1892, Mound Valley; Dec. 13, 1892, Chetopa. Presidents to date of publication: March 21, 1872, to Oct. 22, 1873, I. W. Patrick; 1873-77, Nelson Case; 1877-79, Rev. F. L. Walker; 1879, D. G. Brown; 1880, Rev. R. M. Scott; 1881-83, Rev. C. H. McCreery; 1883-86, J. M. Cavaness; 1886, Rev. J. B. Ford; 1887-88, J. H. Elmore; 1889, John Slaughter; 1890-92, F. L.

Schaub; 1892-93, Agnes Baty; 1893-94, Dr. L. T. Strother; 1895-96, F. P. Miller; 1896-98, B. F. Briggs; 1899-1901, M. E. Carringer. Secretaries to date of publication: 1872, C. S. Montague; 1872-73, Rev. J. H. Metier; 1873-77, C. Humble; 1877, Nelson Case; 1878, L. J. Van Landingham; 1879, G. K. Sipple; 1880-85, Charles T. Carpenter; 1885-87, William Paramore; 1887-88, Hattie Beggs; 1889-92, Agnes Baty; 1892-93, Nellie Harrison; 1894-95, Nellie Lough; 1896, Mrs. Rosa Meador; 1897-98, C. D. Lynd; 1899, Mrs. Agnes Crawford; 1900, Minnie Shone; 1901, Margaret Cellars.

## TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATIONS.

Before even the county association had been formed, the Sunday-school workers in Oswego met on September 26, 1869, and formed a local organization, of which Nelson Case was elected president. This was the first association organized in the county. After the formation of the county association, the cities organized or reorganized their associations on a basis uniform with the township associations. At the annual convention of the county association in October, 1875, it was resolved to try and secure the organization of the several townships as fast as possible, and within the next two years an organization was effected in each township and city in the county. Many of these associations, however, were short-lived. Their original organization was the result of visits and work by one or more of the officers of the county association, and when these visits ceased most of the township associations ceased to hold meetings. Two or three townships have maintained their organizations, and have regularly held conventions, among them North and Osage; and in



all of the townships quite an amount of local work has been done.

## CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS.

### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS.

*Dennis.*—The church organized at this place a number of years ago was abandoned early in the "nineties," as the members had nearly all moved away. Those left joined with those about Parsons for worship.

*Parsons.*—The Adventists have been holding services in Parsons since 1893. Not having any house of worship of their own, they rent a hall where services are held. Elder D. H. Oberholtzer has been one of their principal evangelists in late years.

*Chetopa.*—A church was organized at this point as early as 1887, and services were held in various places for several years. In 1893 they commenced the erection of a church, which was completed and dedicated April 22, 1894. Not being strong enough to maintain their organization, they sold their church building to the city to be used for school purposes, and have practically abandoned this place since 1896.

*Oswego.*—The Church at Oswego was organized in 1898, but its membership was largely made up of those who had previously joined the organization at Stover. The latter was probably the oldest organization of this denomination in the county, commencing in 1869; services have been held quite regularly since. Elders John Madison, H. C. Blanchard, L. D. Santee and others have been efficient evangelists. Soon after organizing in Oswego, steps were taken to secure a church building. The erection of this building, on the northeast corner of Second avenue and Merchant street,

was commenced in 1899 and completed the following spring; it was dedicated July 1, 1900. Elders J. W. Westphal and D. H. Oberholtzer have done evangelistic service here.

### CHURCH OF GOD.

*Zion Hill.*—This church was organized in the fall of 1883, by Mrs. Clara Utsey, with 15 members. Services were conducted by her in the Stover school-house until the completion of their church building. The church was erected in the fall of 1884, on the northwest corner of section 10, in Fairview township. Besides Mrs. Utsey, Rev. Mr. Barterbaugh and Rev. Mr. Cross have preached for this congregation. It has for some time been without a pastor.

*Center Bethel* was organized about the same time as Zion Hill. A church house was erected in the spring of 1884, on the northwest corner of section 21, in Liberty township. The same ministers who have supplied Zion Hill have also preached for this congregation.

*Janes.*—An organization of this church was effected at the Janes school-house, in District No. 95, in the fall of 1884. It has had the same ministers as Zion Hill church.

### MORMONS, OR LATTER DAY SAINTS.

Quite a number of this persuasion were among the first settlers along Pumpkin Creek, in the southern part of Mound Valley and Cananda townships. Among those who were prominent were the families of Hart, Richard and Benjamin Davis, Phineas and Charles Fultz. There were several among them who were recognized as preachers. Services were held from house to house quite regularly. When the school-house was built, in 1877, in District No.

94. they organized, and removed their services to that place, where they have since been regularly continued.

#### UNIVERSALISTS.

In January, 1883, an organization of this denomination was effected at the home of Rev. J. Davis, in Oswego. Meetings were conducted in the court-house, and part of the time in Liggett's Hall. Rev. J. Davis was elected pastor, and continued to serve as such till about the middle of April, 1885, when the organization was practically disbanded. Services were not maintained regularly, however, during all of that time.

#### BROTHERHOOD OF HUMANITARIANS.

January 13, 1884, an organization taking this title was formed in Liggett's Hall, in Oswego, as follows: Mrs. E. Smith, president; Mrs. I. C. Pierce, vice-president; Mrs. M. A. Hurlbut, secretary; Dr. R. W. Wright, treasurer. I do not know to what extent they maintained meetings.

#### THE SALVATION CHURCH OF CHRIST

Was formed by Thomas D. Bickham as a new religious organization, in Chautauqua county, in 1880, and the following year a class was organized at Rose Hill school-house, in District No. 91, which has been maintained since then. This is the only class in the county belonging to this organization. Since the death of Thomas D. Bickham, in 1889, his son, Ezra E. Bickham, has been the leading spirit in this church.

#### NEOSHO VALLEY CHURCH.

The southwest corner of section 33, township 32, range 21, was deeded to F. Swanwick and Randall Bagby, for the use of all religious

denominations. The neighbors contributed work and logs, and in January, 1870, a log church was erected upon this ground, and a cemetery was also started thereon. Nearly all denominations at one time or another held services here: possibly the preachers of the Methodist Church South used it as much as any other. The building was used for both school and church purposes until the new school-house was built in District No. 24, after which the building was torn down. The burying-ground is still used.

#### CHURCH OF WILSONTON.

This church professed to be organized on the plan of the old apostles, of having one church in a place. The first meeting looking toward its organization was held October 27, 1889, in the hall at Wilsonton. Rev. George E. Thrall was elected chairman and Mrs. Ella B. Wilson, secretary. A constitution was adopted and officers elected.

#### CATHOLIC.

*Chetopa.*—Father Schoemaker and other priests had visited along the Neosho as soon as settlers had commenced to arrive, and had done considerable religious work; but no church was organized by them till 1871. On July 16, 1871, Father Dougherty took charge of the work, and began holding services in Drake's Hall. A building was erected, and on May 31, 1874, dedicated by Rev. E. Bononcini, pastor, and Rev. F. Swemberg, of Emporia. Father Bononcini had charge of the work for some time prior to December, 1880, when he was succeeded by C. Haspenthal. Since 1880, the following have been pastors: 1881-83, Father Laehre; 1883-85, Father Weiner; 1886-87, T. J. Butler; 1887-88, J. J. O'Connor; 1888-90, John McNamara; 1891-93, B. M.

Pizos; 1893-95, Father Pottgeiser; 1896, Father Manz; 1897, Father Hildebrand; 1898, Father Barniger; 1899, Father Eugene; 1900, Father Kealy. In 1888 James Dunn contributed ground for a cemetery. In 1900 the old frame church was torn down and a new brick edifice, costing about \$2,500, was erected.

*Oswego.*—Priests from neighboring parishes visited Oswego from time to time and held services. In 1878, largely through the instrumentality of F. Beyle, a building was erected, which was dedicated October 13th of that year, by Rev. Paul M. Ponziglioni. A priest has supplied this in connection with other points.

*Parsons.*—St. Patrick's congregation was organized by Father Philip G. Calloten, in the summer of 1872, and lots 1 and 2 in block 122 were secured on which to commence the erection of a frame church. In December, 1876, he was succeeded by Father Joseph Dreason, who served till August, 1881, when Father Rose took charge. Under his direction the property at the head of Central avenue was secured and converted into a convent. Five sisters from St. Agnes convent at Osage Mission were secured to conduct the school. Changes were also made in the church building and grounds. Fathers Hodgden, Reil and Ward succeeded Father Rose. Father John Ward served until 1895, when he was succeeded by Father Nichola Neusius, who is now in charge. Work was commenced on the new church under Father Ward in 1891. The basement was completed, and services were held therein until 1900, when the church was pushed to completion. It is a fine structure, 58 by 145 feet, with a 78-foot transept; a tower 165 feet high contains a 2,900-pound bell. The church is decorated in Roman style, and has stained glass windows. It is furnished with a pipe organ

costing over \$2,000. The entire cost of the church and furnishings is said to be \$32,000. It has a seating capacity of 800. The Sacred Heart Academy was started in 1890 under the direction of the Sisters of Loretto; since 1896 it has been directed by the Sisters of Charity.

#### PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.

*Oswego.*—In 1870, and for a year or two thereafter, Episcopal services were held now and then at Oswego, and some steps were taken towards organizing a parish. If it was accomplished at all, it did not live long nor show many signs of life.

*Chetopa.*—During 1871 the Episcopalians held occasional services in some of the churches in Chetopa, and gathered together some strength that naturally tended to that body. In May, 1872, St. Paul's parish was formed, with Rev. Thomas L. Smith as rector. Services were held seldom and irregularly for several years. In July, 1888, Rev. Richard Elerby commenced holding services, first in private residences and later in one of the churches of the other denominations. In August, 1893, they laid the foundation of their own church, and on March 21, 1898, it was formally consecrated by Rt. Rev. Frank Mills-paugh. When they commenced building, they had seven communicants; now they have over 30.

*Parsons.*—St. John's Memorial church was organized in June, 1874, as a memorial to Ezra Williams Howard, of Providence, R. I., whose widow, through Bishop Vail, gave \$2,000 towards its erection. The first board of trustees consisted of Angell Matthewson, W. C. Holmes, J. R. Brown, James Barton, George Thornton, S. O. Fletcher, and William Horsefall. Dr. J. B. Lamb was the first senior

warden. Rev. Benjamin Mower was at once secured as the first rector, and he continued to act as such for something over a year. He immediately commenced raising money for the erection of a church. On Sunday, September 27, 1874, the corner-stone was laid, under the direction of the Masons and Odd Fellows, and on April 4, 1875, the church was opened by Bishop Vail. Prior to the completion of their own church they had held services in the Methodist tabernacle. Mr. Gay, D. W. Cox, Mr. Talbot, W. T. Bowen, C. W. Harris and J. J. Purcell are among those who have served as rectors. Rev. J. J. Purcell, the last-named, has been the rector since 1894, and has contributed by his efficient labors in keeping the church abreast of the growth of the city.

#### CHRISTIAN.

[It is probable that some of the organizations which I have grouped under this head might be more properly designated, according to their own claim, by some other name, but I have no information by which I can make any better classification than this.—N. C.]

*Concord*.—Soon after the completion of Concord school-house, in District No. 16, in the fall of 1868, Rev. Jackson Statton commenced holding services in it. He and other ministers frequently preached there during the next year. In 1874 Rev. J. S. Masters began preaching here, and organized a church, which was maintained for some five years.

*Franklin* was organized at Center school-house, District No. 14, in 1869, by Peterson Cherry and William McIntosh. Some two years later it was moved to the Liberty school-house, in District No. 17, and some three or four years later to the Franklin school-house, in District No. 55, where it has since been

maintained. It has had for its pastors Elders Berry, Randall, Murray, and Cole.

*Pleasant Hill*.—A church was organized in the log school-house in District No. 38, in April, 1871, by Rev. J. S. Masters, who preached for them a number of years. In 1878 they built a frame church on the northeast quarter of section 26, township 31, range 18. After Mr. Masters moved away the organization ceased, and the church building was sold to the Seventh Day Adventists.

*Lockard*.—An organization was formed at the Lockard school-house, in District No. 28, by Rev. J. N. Allison, who has preached there for some time.

*Star*.—Rev. J. S. Masters organized a church in the Star schoolhouse, in District No. 50, in 1874, and preached there several years. It was then consolidated with the South Hackberry church.

*South Hackberry (now Elm City)*.—This church was organized at the Valley school-house, District No. 72, by Rev. J. S. Masters and Rev. G. W. Goodman, April 6, 1873, and has maintained services ever since. Rev. J. S. Masters and his brother, Rev. J. L. Masters, have preached for the church the greater part of the time, but it has also had other preachers. The services were changed in 1887 from the Valley school-house to Rose Hill school-house, in District No. 109. The church in the summer of 1892 erected a house of worship at Elm City, which was dedicated Oct. 9, 1892, by Rev. J. S. Masters. Philander Davis, A. Humphries, J. Allison, F. Folie, J. P. Coats, James Allison, Jr., besides the Masters brothers, have been pastors.

*Emmons District, No. 84*.—In 1877 Rev. Skelton Riley, a preacher in the Christian denomination, commenced preaching in this school-house, and as there were several in the

neighborhood who wanted to have a church connection, he soon succeeded in forming quite an organization of those who had belonged to various denominations. The understanding was that no particular denominational creed should be preached. Everything went off smoothly for about a year, but finally the preacher mixed in his sermons quite a large amount of his peculiar denominational views, which was distasteful to a large proportion of his members. The membership gradually decreased, and after an existence of something like two years the organization became entirely disbanded.

*Bell Mound District, No. 99.*—A Christian church was organized at this point several years ago, which has since been maintained. A. D. Skaggs and Job Padget have done considerable preaching for them.

*Chetopa.*—On September 11, 1870, Rev. Allen Crocker, of Burlington, preached at Spaulding's Hall. This was the first service held by this denomination in Chetopa. This church was organized with 36 members, in January, 1876, by Benjamin H. Smith, who served it as pastor for about eighteen months, preaching for them once a month. In 1878 Elder M. J. Jenkins held a series of meetings, the use of the Baptist church being secured for that purpose. For the next three years the church was occasionally served by Prof. Robert Hay. The church then became disbanded, partially for want of a place to meet. In 1883 a room in the California House was secured as a place for meeting, and F. S. Young and P. A. Millard were secured to hold a series of meetings in April. These resulted in a reorganization of the church, with 24 members. A Sunday-school had been organized by them a few weeks before. P. A. Millard served them as pastor for a year or more, after which

they had preaching occasionally till the spring of 1886, when M. J. Jenkins became pastor, giving them half of his time for some six months. In 1884 a frame church 32 by 44 feet was erected, at a cost of about \$1,400, and dedicated December 14, 1884, by W. C. Pool. On April 30, 1889, the church traded this house of worship with the Baptist denomination for its building, and thereupon the two denominations exchanged places of meeting. In 1888 Elder M. Ingles preached one-half the time, and G. W. Leonard once a month in 1891. A. J. Garrison was pastor in 1892, preaching two Sundays each month, until November, when he resigned. Since 1892, the pastors have been: A. L. Taylor, R. G. White and W. F. Guy. The membership of the church is about 90. In 1893 an addition was made to the church, a baptistry put in, and some repairs made.

*Labette.*—This church was first organized at Liberty school-house, District No. 17, in 1871, by William McIntosh, who preached to them most of the time for several years. In September, 1877, the organization was removed to the town of Labette, where it has since been maintained. They have not had regular pastors much of the time, but have had occasional preaching by Peter Shick, Frank Harman, Elder Jenkins, A. D. Skaggs, Thomas Cole, and others.

*Montana.*—This church was organized at the residence of Dr. R. M. Taylor, December 2, 1886, at which time J. J. Freeman, Crowell Cook and R. H. Gaston were elected trustees. Lots 7 and 8 in block 14 were secured, and a church building was erected thereon in 1887, at a cost of about \$600. The church has been supplied with regular preaching but a small portion of the time. Rev. A. D. Skaggs preached for them some time in connection

with his work at other points in the county. In 1892 negotiations for a sale of their church building to the Methodists were had, but did not result in anything. Since then no pastor has been employed and no services have been conducted.

*Parsons.*—The First Christian church of Parsons was first organized in 1873, with 12 members, and was reorganized in 1875, with 35 members. A brick building was completed in 1879. Its first elders were Phineas Davis and John Leonard; its first deacons, J. F. Van Meter and W. L. Daily. The first pastor was J. B. Graves, who was followed by C. C. Cline, C. O. McKinney, O. E. Ebert, — Thomas, J. P. Witt, J. T. Tucker and J. H. Love. In May, 1890, J. P. Witt, who had been preaching for the First church, organized the Central Christian church, with a membership of about 40, and became its first pastor. He was succeeded by D. M. Harris, and he by — Brown. In 1894, the First and the Central Christian churches, who had maintained separate organizations since their separation in 1890, concluded to unite, and to be thereafter known as the Central Christian church. This union took place under the leadership of W. E. Harlow, who had a very successful pastorate, extending from January 1, 1894, to June, 1897, during which time the membership of the church was very largely increased. W. W. Burks held the position of pastor from July 1, 1897, to November, 1900, since which time C. E. Pile has served.

*Altamont.*—This church was organized in March, 1877, by Elder Frank Harmon, with thirteen members. James Perry and William P. Daniel were its first elders, and F. L. Hamilton and James Daniel its deacons. It has been served by the following ministers: Frank

Harmon, J. Padget, P. W. Shick, John Owen, B. F. Lucas. In 1892 this church purchased the frame building which had previously been the public school building, which they have removed and repaired for use as a church.

*Oswego.*—The Oswego Christian church was organized in May, 1875, by Rev. J. W. Randall, with a membership of about 20 soon after completing the organization. For a time they held services in the Baptist church, and afterwards in the court-house. In 1879 they erected a house of worship, which was dedicated January 25, 1880, by Rev. Kirk Baxter. The pastors have been as follows: J. W. Randall, M. J. Jenkins, Kirk Baxter, H. S. Kline, Thomas E. Shepherd, D. R. De Schullie, A. H. Mulkey, R. A. Thompson, J. W. Ferrell, M. Ingels, J. H. Blake, E. N. Tucker, S. J. Vance, O. C. Atwater, G. W. Leonard, J. A. Longston and H. J. Aldrich. An organization of the Y. P. S. C. E. was effected October 12, 1890, and has done a good line of work in Bible study. David Jennings was president for several years, and for a number of years past there have been different persons in that position. The ladies have an organized and active missionary society. The numerical strength of the church is about 130.

*Mound Valley.*—An organization was effected at the residence of E. Stapleton, in May, 1871, by Rev. J. W. Randall. This organization, however, only lasted for a short time. In March, 1882, Rev. J. Padget conducted a series of meetings in a school-house, and a reorganization was formed. A house of worship was erected that summer. P. W. Shick was pastor for several years prior to 1895. In July, 1895, Rev. Joel Brown, an evangelist, conducted a successful protracted meeting, at the conclusion of which Elder H.



G. White was employed for the ensuing year. Following him were Benjamin F. Martin, — Lahr, and J. P. Hauer.

#### CONGREGATIONAL.

*Oswego.*—The Congregational church of Oswego was the first church to be organized in the county. The meeting at which it was organized was held in the building at the north-east corner of block 33, then used for school and church purposes, Jan. 9, 1868. There were present Rev. T. H. Canfield, Dr. W. S. Newlon, Mrs. M. W. Newlon, Mrs. Lucinda Newlon, William Herbaugh, Augusta Herbaugh, and A. L. Austin. W. S. Newlon was elected clerk, A. L. Austin and William Herbaugh, deacons. On the following Sunday, January 12th, the public organization of the church took place. Rev. Thomas H. Canfield was sent out by the Board of Home Missions in the fall of 1867, and soon commenced preaching. He was the first regular preacher on the ground who came more as a preacher than as a settler, although the Methodists had several local preachers here before he came. Early in 1869 they commenced the erection of a stone church, which was inclosed about the last of the year, and cost some \$2,000. The church was first occupied on January 23, 1870, although it was not yet completed. Mr. Canfield resigned in 1870, and was succeeded for a few months by Rev. J. F. Morgan, who was followed by Rev. F. A. Armstrong—a man with a large amount of wisdom and goodness, but with less *practical* sense. As a consequence, he and his members did not see things alike, and he was finally left as pastor of a church almost without a membership. The church remained closed for a number of months, but finally A. Bixby was employed, and preached most of the time for some two or three years—from 1876 to 1879.

John F. Flint served a few months in 1880. E. F. Smith was called in the spring of 1881, and served until the summer of 1882. J. N. Branch preached for them the last half of 1883. O. M. Van Swearingen came in the spring of 1884, and stayed a little more than a year. From the fall of 1886 to the spring of 1887 Wm. T. Blenkarn supplied the pulpit; it then remained vacant till the spring of 1891, when Park A. Bradford was employed, and remained most of that year. In the summer of 1892 Charles H. Currans filled the pulpit. Since 1892 Rev. I. D. Barnard and Rev. H. A. Brundage each served the church for several months regularly. Two or three other parties have also preached occasionally; but the church has not attempted to keep up regular services or to employ a pastor at all regularly during several years past; indeed, the church work has been practically suspended for years.

*Parsons.*—Early in 1872 several citizens of Parsons who leaned toward Congregationalism, after consulting some of the officers of the Home Missionary Society, decided to organize, and secured the incorporation of "The First Congregational Church Society of Parsons," with E. C. Ward, E. S. Stevens and C. L. Whitney as trustees. Hewes' Hall was rented, and Rev. Mr. Storrs and other ministers promised to preach until the arrival of the Rev. P. M. Griffin, who was to be sent out by the Home Missionary Society as soon as he finished his course at Andover. As the Methodists and Presbyterians were already occupying this hall on alternate Sabbaths, the Congregationalists could only hold services occasionally. This hastened their action in building a church. The town company donated lots 1 and 2 in block 49, and the church purchased lots 3 and 4 adjoining. Mr. Griffin arrived

on the ground and commenced work September 1, 1872. A brick building 27 by 65 was constructed as rapidly as could be done, and was completed in the following July. On July 12, 1873, Edmund S. Stevens, Mrs. Elizabeth Stevens, Mrs. Emily Fellows, Rev. Presley M. Griffin and Mrs. E. J. Griffin formed themselves into and organized the First Congregational church of Parsons. On the following day, Sunday, July 13, 1873, the church building was dedicated by Dr. P. McVicar; the church was reorganized, and the pastor was ordained and installed by an ecclesiastical council. Mr. Griffin remained pastor till August 19, 1879, when he resigned, and was duly dismissed by the council. During Mr. Griffin's pastorate the church membership was increased from 5 to 62, and the entire church indebtedness was canceled. Mr. Griffin was succeeded by Rev. H. M. Burr, who came in November, and continued till May, 1880, when he was compelled by ill health to resign. From this time till September 1, 1881, the church was without a pastor; at that time Rev. C. Hartley came and stayed till June, 1882, when he resigned. In December, 1882, Rev. W. H. Utley became pastor, and continued till February 1, 1886. In May of that year Rev. C. L. McKeelson accepted a call, and remained some two years. The church was then closed till the summer of 1890, during which time it seemed that the life of the church had entirely fled; but the membership again rallied, repaired the church, and extended a call to their first pastor, Rev. P. M. Griffin, who accepted, and began work September 1, 1890, and continued till sometime in 1892. During his last pastorate a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor was formed and new vitality was put into the church in many ways. Since 1892 the pastors have been: T.

B. Jones, three years; A. W. Bishop, four years; L. G. Ruge, one year; and the present pastor, T. B. Coachman. In 1894 a new small brick church replaced the original structure, which was torn down.

*The Deerton Congregational Church* was organized in the Dresser school-house, District No. 51, July 22, 1877, by Rev. S. D. Storrs, with seven members. Rev. Alanson Bixby, of Oswego, was chairman of the meeting, and after the organization of the church he was at once chosen pastor; he served this church in connection with the church at Oswego. There were 17 accessions during the year. At the close of that year Rev. Uriel Farmer was chosen pastor, and during the year steps were taken to erect a church and parsonage. George E. Wiley donated three acres of land on the northwest quarter of section 21, township 34, range 18, near the north line of Howard township, for church and parsonage. The parsonage was built during 1878. The church building was erected in the fall of 1879, and was dedicated January 24, 1880, the corner-stone having been laid October 18, 1879. Mr. Farmer having served two years, he retired, and Rev. Mr. Flint temporarily supplied the pulpit. Early in 1882 Rev. James Cooper became pastor, and served to the close of 1883. During his pastorate about 50 names were added to the list of members. With the opening of 1884 Rev. Howard Gilchrist entered on his pastorate, which continued till near the close of 1885, when Rev. Park A. Bradford preached for a time. This closed the work while the building remained at Deerton.

*Valeda.*—In the fall of 1886 the church building was removed from Deerton to Valeda. No services were held by the church until the fall of 1891. On September 27, 1891, the church was reorganized, with 33 members.

Rev. S. B. Dyckman was chosen pastor, and continued to serve in that capacity for some time. For several years past no pastor has been employed, and no regular services have been held in this church. The parsonage still remains at Deerton.

## BAPTIST.

*Altamont*.—On June 18, 1882, a few families,—viz.: of the Bonebrake families, Frank, May, S. M., Ezra, Amanda J., Luella; of the Baker family, Isaac. Aseneth, Thomas L., May C., Allen T., Melvina; George and Margaret Chapman, Jonathan and Sarah Self, and Adeline Burns,—presented letters from other churches, and organized the Altamont Baptist church. Rev. T. C. Daniels was chosen as the first pastor; he only served till Nov. 19, 1882, when he was followed by J. M. C. Reed, who served for three years. E. Estes, W. G. Slinker, W. T. Jackson, C. N. H. Moore, C. W. Alexander and L. P. Day have been the subsequent pastors. In 1883 a building, costing about \$1,500, was completed and dedicated January 29, 1884, by Rev. A. S. Merrifield.

*Prairie Valley*.—On May 20, 1876, a Baptist church was organized at Prairie Valley school-house, District No. 31, three miles northeast of Parsons, with 11 members. It had grown to 28 members in 1884, when it disbanded, the members mostly uniting with the church in Parsons. During its existence its pastors were: 1876-81, J. M. C. Reed; part of 1881, J. C. Richardson; 1883-84, J. S. Johnson.

*Oswego*.—The First Baptist church of Oswego was organized at the court-house April 28, 1869, with the following members: Rev. Thomas Clark and wife D. Clark, Rev. Zachariah Harris and wife Anna J. Harris, Rev. T. J. Flouronoy and wife Virginia Flouronoy,

and mother Nancy P. Flouronoy, John S. Read and wife E. C. Read, Elijah Read and wife Sarah Read, Sarah N. Carr, Anna M. Bridgman, Jerusha P. Smith, John Garrett, Jemima Garrett, and George W. Kingsbury. Rev. M. A. Clark, home missionary, was present, and acted as clerk. Rev. C. A. Bateman, of Che-topa, was also present, and gave the right hand of fellowship. Rev. Thomas Clark acted as moderator. John S. Read was elected clerk, Thomas J. Flouronoy, deacon, John S. Read, T. J. Flouronoy and G. W. Kingsbury, trustees. On May 8, 1869, a meeting was held, at which it was voted, on motion of Mr. Flouronoy, to proceed to build a house of worship. Subscription papers were put in circulation and reference is made to the matter at several meetings during the year, but no results are reported. On June 9, 1869, "the subject of foot-washing in connection with the supper was introduced by Bro. Flouronoy. There being no second to his motion, there was no action had upon the subject." There seems to have been no employment of a pastor during 1869 or 1870, but Rev. Thomas Clark preached quite regularly the first year. On May 20, 1870, Rev. F. L. Walker arrived in Oswego, and at once took charge of the church, and to his faithful labors during the next twelve years, more than to any other human agency, are the Baptists indebted for the privileges they enjoy today. In September of that year a building committee was appointed, lots on which to build were selected and donated by the town company, and preparations were commenced in earnest to have a church building. The foundation was laid early in the spring of 1871, and was inclosed by midsummer of the following year. Though not finished, the church held their first services in the new house on July 13, 1872, with 13 persons present, only

eight of whom were members. Services continued to be held there till winter, when other quarters had to be secured. The next year the church was plastered and seated. Mr. Walker continued as pastor of the church till the close of 1881, when he severed his relations and went further west. In April, 1882, Rev. C. T. Daniel accepted a call, and at once entered upon his pastorate, which was continued till March, 1883, when he resigned, and the church remained without a pastor until April, 1884, when Rev. J. M. Lackey accepted a call, and remained only till September. During the summer of 1883 the church was refurnished inside and reseated. In February, 1885, Rev. Chas. J. Bowles accepted a call, and served the church until the close of 1886. In March, 1889, Rev. Robert Smith became pastor, and continued as such to July, 1890. The church was then without a regular pastor until April, 1891, when Rev. C. N. H. Moore commenced his services as pastor, which terminated with July, 1894. The church was then without a pastor until the last of April, 1896, when Rev. Arthur Creary was employed; he filled the pulpit until the last of July, 1900, since which time the church has been without a pastor. The B. Y. P. U. was organized in April, 1891, with Miss Nellie Harrison as president. Since then a number of persons have held that position.

The Second Baptist church of Oswego was organized by the colored people, in 1880. Cornelius Johnson secured its organization, and became its first pastor. Since then the church has had the following pastors: A. W. Green, J. J. Johnson, J. R. White, T. T. Ward, D. T. Carriway, N. C. Robinson. In 1882 the church put up quite a good frame building on the southwest corner of block 2, in which they held services till September, 1884, when it was

burned. Services were then conducted in the A. M. E. church for some time. In July, 1885, they commenced the erection of a new church on the site of the old one, and got it inclosed that fall, although it was not completed until the next year. Rev. N. C. Robinson has been pastor of this church the past ten years, and has rendered faithful and efficient service.

Mount Pleasant Baptist church (composed of colored members) was organized several miles northeast of Oswego, in 1887. The families composing it having for the most part moved from that vicinity, the organization was removed to Oswego in 1896. They have used dwelling houses or rented rooms in which to hold their services so far, but they are at present erecting a neat frame church in the west part of Oswego. J. J. Johnson has been pastor of this church from its organization.

*Mound Valley Township.*—A Baptist church was organized in the fall of 1871, at the home of J. G. Phenix, in the west part of Mound Valley township, by Rev. N. L. Davis. This organization was maintained some three or four years, when it was disbanded on account of other churches being organized, which drew away the members.

*Wilsonton.*—The Wilsonton Baptist church was organized June 5, 1892, with Rev. J. D. Hopper as pastor, and a membership of seven or eight.

A Baptist church was organized at Wilsonton (probably) in 1894. Under the lead and management of Elder Hopps, a building was erected in that and the following year, and dedicated August 11, 1895.

*Hackberry* church was organized November 26, 1870, in the residence of Mr. DeGraw, in Hackberry township, by Rev. F. L. Walker. J. B. Ellis and Isaac Strickland were elected deacons. Services have ever since been main-

tained in the Ellis school-house, in District No. 45. Its pastors have been F. L. Walker, George Richardson, William Richardson, C. T. Floyd, George Goodwin, and W. G. Slinker.

*Pleasant Hill church* is located on the northwest corner of section 12, in the southeast corner of Hackberry township. It was organized in the spring of 1885, by Rev. C. T. Floyd, the membership coming principally from the Chetopa church. On May 25, 1885, work commenced on a church building, which was completed, and on September 6th of that year was dedicated by Rev. J. P. Ash.

*Lucnis.*—In the fall of 1877 Rev. Mr. Garrison held a protracted meeting in the school-house in District No. 38, and organized a church. In 1878 they built a small frame church on the northeast corner of section 23, but after a time removed it to the southwest quarter of section 24. After Dennis was started they moved this building there, where they still use it as their house of worship.

*Mound Valley.*—J. H. Tibbits, Sarah Tibbits, Milo Hildreth, Samuel Guthrey, Judson Wilson, H. W. Savage and Allison Savage constituted the first membership of the first Baptist church of Mound Valley, which was organized at the home of J. H. Tibbits, three miles south of Mound Valley, on April 1, 1871, by Rev. F. L. Walker. On the following day, Sunday, Mr. Walker preached at the school-house in the town of Mound Valley, at which place services were thereafter held till the completion of their church building in 1882. In January, 1880, lots were procured; in February a building committee was appointed, and in September the work of building was begun. As the building was mostly erected by volunteer work, it was some time in course of construction. It was dedicated, free of debt, on October 29, 1882. Mr. Walker remained in charge of the church for seven years, and was

succeeded by Rev. George Goodwin, who remained about a year, when Rev. W. G. Slinker was called, and continued as pastor for seven years, at the close of which Rev. C. T. Floyd became pastor. R. R. Coleman, who died in January, 1882, was one of the efficient workers of the church. In January, 1885, this church joined with the Methodists in their building in holding a revival meeting under the leadership of Rev. W. H. Hulbert, an evangelist. This was one of the most remarkable revivals ever held in the place. The Baptists realized from it an addition of 52 members. Mr. Floyd served as pastor until the close of 1893, since which time the church has had the following pastors: C. N. H. Moore, — Doughty, J. H. Jettmore, W. E. Powell, Levi Lottman, I. D. Newell and R. N. Newman.

*Parsons.*—First Baptist Church: In the summer of 1871 Rev. F. L. Walker, of Oswego, visited Parsons and held some meetings. Perhaps other ministers may also have rendered them some services. A few Baptists in that vicinity got together, and even went so far as to commence the foundation for a church, but they were so few in number and so scattered that the enterprise was for a time abandoned. On March 2, 1873, Rev. Robert Atkinson preached in the Methodist church, and took the first steps toward organizing a church at that place. The organization was perfected March 30, 1873, with a membership of 12, composed of George, Susan and Emma Everhart, Letitia Rockhold, Isaac Neptune, Benjamin F., Martin W., Mary B. and Lizzie Elliott, Ella Hall, Alice Scholl, and R. M. Donnelly. The following officers were then elected: Rev. Robert Atkinson, pastor and moderator; R. M. Donnelly, clerk; Mrs. Letitia Rockhold, treasurer; W. P. Scholl, J. B. Stilwell, J. R. Bennett and Mrs. Letitia Rockhold, trustees;



J. W. Fee, W. P. Scholl and J. B. Stilwell, deacons. F. L. Walker and Thomas W. Green served as pastors till 1874; during that year Elihu Gunn preached for them a while, after which the church was inactive till September 1, 1877, when it was reorganized by Rev. Mr. Garrison, and a room secured on Forest avenue, in which meetings were held till the church was erected. In October, 1879, the foundation for the new church was laid, and on January 31, 1880, the building was occupied. In 1887 the building was enlarged and improved, at a cost of over \$3,000, and on February 5, 1888, was dedicated by Rev. Robert Atkinson. The church has had two quite marked revivals, one in 1884 and the other in 1887. The following have served as pastors: F. M. Iams, H. M. Carr, W. H. Irwin, L. J. Dyke, A. J. Essex, W. C. Harvey, J. T. Haye, H. M. Carr, C. H. DeWolfe, H. G. Fraser and J. T. Crawford. The last named gentleman has served from 1897 to the present date. A number of years ago, a Young People's Society of Christian Workers was organized in this church, of which H. F. Hixon was elected president; Rev. J. T. Hoye, G. H. L. Copeland and T. W. Flitton also served as presidents. The name was later changed to that of the Baptist Young People's Union.

Second (or New Hope) Baptist church: This church was organized by the colored people April 29, 1876, with 13 members. Rev. Thomas Wilson, of Ottawa, and Rev. David Payne, of Humboldt, were the ministers who effected the organization, and Mr. Payne became the first pastor. A building was erected during the summer of 1876, which structure was replaced in 1893 by a new brick edifice, costing about \$3,000. Rev. A. Fairfax has been pastor since 1885.

Mount Pleasant Baptist church is located

in Parsons, and is also composed of colored members. It was organized May 27, 1886. Rev. G. W. Parks, of Oswego, acting as moderator, and J. W. Brown, as secretary. W. A. Walton was the first pastor. The congregation still occupies the frame church that was erected in 1891, at a cost of \$1,500. Rev. D. D. Payne has been pastor since 1890.

Mount Zion Baptist church is a small organization of colored members; it has no church building and holds services irregularly.

*Richland.*—A Baptist church was organized in the Richland school-house, in District No. 94, in May, 1877. Rev. F. L. Walker preached the organization sermon, and Rev. J. L. D. Williams gave the charge to the church. Mr. Williams was the first pastor, and served one year. Following him the church has been served by George Goodwin, Mr. Merry, C. A. Daniels, J. S. Johnson, and W. G. Slinker. In 1885 a new church building was erected on the northwest quarter of section 26 in Canada township. The first service was held therein on November 1, 1885, and the house was dedicated on December 6, 1885, by Rev. E. Estes, of Altamont.

*Edna.*—On Feb. 2, 1872, Rev. F. L. Walker, of Oswego, assisted in organizing what was then called the Mount Zion Baptist church. Services were held in the Lieb school-house, in District No. 85, and also in other of the school-houses in that part of the county. In the fall of 1883 work was commenced on a church building in Kingston; the following summer it was finished and dedicated. The town of Kingston having been abandoned and the business consolidated with Edna on the completion of the railroad, in 1886, this church building was removed to Edna. The following have served as pastors of this church: George Richardson, four years; George H.



Goodwin, four years; W. G. Slinker, sixteen years; C. T. Floyd, two years; ——— Foster, one year; J. S. Harvey, since 1899.

*Labette.*—Rev. G. W. Richardson commenced preaching in a log cabin on section 27, belonging to A. W. Richardson's estate, in the fall of 1867. He continued to preach at intervals in that vicinity until the church was organized. The organization of the Labette Baptist church took place on (or about) July 25, 1870, at the residence of R. K. Jones, with the following members: Elder, G. W. Richardson; R. K. Jones, Martha Jones, Victoria Jones, and John Richardson. It was not until 1877 that a house was erected by the church. Before that, meetings were held in various places, but principally in the hall or school-house. Quite a portion of the time the church has been without a pastor. The following is a list of those who have served as pastors: G. W. Richardson till 1879, J. W. Sage two years, C. T. Floyd six months, F. M. Bowman sixteen months, C. J. Bowles one year, E. Estes one year, J. T. Crawford two months in his vacation, J. W. Jones one year, W. T. Jackson, J. R. Alexander, T. M. Cooper and W. R. Newman. On June 7, 1900, the church building was blown to atoms by a tornado that swept over the county. The church soon went to work to erect a new building, and are now just completing it at a cost of about \$1,300.

*Chetopa.*—Of the work of the Baptists before the war, Dr. Lisle says: "The Baptists had preaching at our school-house occasionally, but had no organized church in the neighborhood; there were several respectable members of that church here." The first service of the Baptist denomination in Chetopa after the war of which I have learned was a sermon by Rev. C. A. Bateman on April 18, 1869, a preliminary meeting of those desirous of organ-

izing having been held on April 10, 1869. The First Baptist church of Chetopa was organized on April 24, 1869, by W. A. Clarke, who was Sunday-school missionary of the Baptist Publication Society, and C. A. Bateman, the latter of whom at once became its pastor, in which capacity he served the church till after the dedication of its building. To his enthusiasm was largely due the rapidity with which their building was pushed forward. On February 9, 1870, they commenced work, and on August 14, 1870, their house was dedicated, the sermon being preached by Rev. F. M. Ellis, of Lawrence. In November, 1870, Rev. A. L. Rigby accepted a call to the pastorate of the church, and remained two years, during which time the chairs with which the church was first seated were removed and good pews put in their place, the grounds were fenced, and other improvements made. From the close of 1872 on for several years the church was without any regular pastor, and consequently suffered very materially in its strength. Mr. Walker, of Oswego, gave them some help; in 1874 Rev. W. W. Kane, of Tennessee, preached for them a few months, and other ministers occasionally gave them some service. In July, 1879, Rev. C. T. Floyd became pastor, and remained in charge till 1882. In January, 1883, Rev. William Wilbur accepted the pastoral call tendered him, and continued as such till September, 1885. In 1887 the church called Elder ——— Knapp, who served them one year. Rev. D. W. Harvey became pastor in 1888, and remained two years; Elder White followed him, being in turn succeeded after several years' service by A. J. Foster, who served one year; then W. G. Slinker gave four years' service, and was succeeded by the present incumbent, James Harvey.

The Second Baptist church of Chetopa is composed of colored members. It was organized in 1882, and has a building free from debt. It has had the following pastors: Jerry Houston, P. Botts, C. T. Tillman, A. W. Green, R. Cartwright, J. R. White, ——— Steward, J. A. D. Jenkins, M. C. Cox, S. S. Alexander, H. H. Curtis, ——— Morrill, and J. N. Duncan.

Bethlehem Baptist church was formed of members who withdrew from the Second church (last above), in 1896. In 1899 they erected a home of their own and have been supplied with preaching by pastors from other towns. Rev. L. H. Houston served them for a time, and led the work in the erection of the church.

#### GERMAN BAPTISTS.

*Altamont.*—The first organization of German Baptists or Dunkards in Labette county was formed at the home of Mrs. Salome Kreighbaum, in Hackberry township, December 31, 1878, with 23 members. Meetings were thereafter held at the Lockard school-house in District No. 28, and in other districts. This became the church now located near Altamont. In 1900 a new church building was erected some two and a half miles northeast of Altamont at a cost of about \$900. The membership is about 40. John Ward, Joel Eikenbury and Noah Oren are ministers. Christian Kingley was one of the first ministers.

*Parsons.*—An organization was formed in Parsons some ten years ago, which has had a steady growth and now numbers about 60 members. In 1898 they erected a church edifice at a cost of about \$1,500.

*Neosho Township.*—In November, 1881, Elders Sidney Hodgden and Martin Nehr

formed an organization in the school-house in District No. 21, in Neosho township. In the fall of 1882, some 20 members from this organization withdrew, and formed a new organization called the

*Brethren.*—They organized at Pleasant Valley school-house, in District No. 48, where they were ministered to by Rev. A. J. Hixon. This organization was united with the one in Parsons after 1892.

#### PREDESTINATION BAPTISTS.

An organization of this denomination was formed at the Hawkins school-house, in District No. 92, about 1875, by Noah Showalters, who became its pastor, and continued as such for several years. T. B. Lee and Isaac McCarty have also been pastors of this church.

#### CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN.

In 1872 Rev. J. W. Alexander organized a Cumberland Presbyterian church in Harmony Grove school-house, in District No. 30, to which he preached for some time, but after a few years it was allowed to lapse.

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN.

*Chetopa.*—Rev. J. A. Adair was the first United Presbyterian minister to preach in the county. He visited Chetopa and vicinity, and preached several times in the spring and summer of 1868. On May 4, 1869, the United Presbyterian congregation was organized, with a membership of 10, Rev. E. C. Cooper preaching, and presiding at the organization. Cranstons Taylor, J. A. Endsley and Edwin Johnson were elected elders, and were ordained on May 10, 1869. Mr. Cooper supplied the church for some months, and on September 12th held the first communion service. On March 28, 1870, a church meeting was held, and a constitution

and by-laws adopted. William Liggett, Robert Phillips, John Haughey, Edwin Johnson and T. J. Calvin were elected trustees. On July 18, 1870, a congregational meeting was held, and action taken looking toward the building of a church; and on Sept. 24, 1870, at another congregational meeting, it was resolved to erect a brick building, 36 by 40 feet. A building committee was appointed, and the work commenced at once. The building was completed in the spring of 1871, and on October 29, 1871, it was dedicated, Rev. J. A. Heron preaching the dedicatory sermon. Before the building was completed the south wall was blown down, which added to the cost and extended the time required for completing the building. The lots for the church and parsonage were donated by the town company; \$1,500 was furnished by the Church Extension Society. The church cost about \$5,000. Previous to securing a regular pastor, Rev. J. C. McKnight did considerable preaching for the church. On January 4, 1871, a call was extended to Rev. W. A. Findley to become pastor, which he accepted, and continued to serve in that capacity till the close of 1872. Some two or three calls for a pastor were extended and declined. Finally, on December 22, 1875, a call was made to Rev. J. D. Graham, which was accepted, and he faithfully served the church during the next ten years, demitting his charge January 19, 1886. Rev. J. A. Thompson was the next pastor called, and he was installed April 27, 1887, but was released on July 14th following, to accept the presidency of a college. Rev. J. P. Gibson, having accepted a call, entered upon his pastoral duties in December, 1887, and closed them in October, 1889. During his pastorate, in 1888, a parsonage was erected, at a cost of about \$1,300. In 1890 Rev. L. W. Williams became

pastor, and continued in that office until the close of 1893, during which time the church debt was reduced to a considerable extent. The church was then without a pastor until 1896, when J. S. Swogger was called, and he served until June, 1898. On May 1, 1899, the present pastor, W. A. Miller, took charge and has led the church in entirely canceling the church debt, and in making needed improvements. On account of deaths and removals, the membership has been reduced, being at the present time only 88. Besides the above-named pastors, the church has from time to time been supplied by Thomas McCague, R. H. Barr, J. Acheson, W. H. Lytle, ——— Pinkerton, ——— Palmer, and perhaps others.

#### PRESBYTERIAN.

*Montana.*—Rev. Seth T. Smalley, a New School Presbyterian minister, commenced preaching in Montana in 1869, and possibly as early as 1868, and served that people more or less for some time thereafter. In May, 1869, Rev. D. P. Emerson preached for them, and the next Sunday Rev. C. V. Monfort, of Oswego, preached. These were the only Presbyterian services at Montana of which I learn, prior to the arrival of Mr. Griffin. The Presbyterians in all of this part of the county seem to have been interested in, if not members of, the church which was formed at Daytonville, on Willow Branch. In March, 1870, Mr. Monfort commenced preaching at the residence of Mr. Martin, west of Labette Creek, and continued his appointments during the next few weeks. On June 25, 1870, the Daytonville church was organized, with G. W. White, Margaret Ellen White, Margaret Jane White, Jane Amanda White, George Cubbison, Alexander Cubbison, Rachel Cubbison, Martha Lewis, James Morning, Caroline Morning,

members received by letter, and Sarah Ellen Hartin, John Henry Hartin, Nancy Shelady, and Louisa Cubbison, received on examination as members. George Cubbison was chosen chairman, G. W. White and Alexander Cubbison were elected ruling elders, and George Cubbison and J. H. Hartin, deacons. Their first communion service was held November 27, 1870. On May 7, 1871, Mr. Monfort preached at the town of Labette, after which a church was organized by a union of the Daytonville church and the Presbyterians living around Labette and Montana. Mr. Monfort remained pastor of this Labette church till his death, on Aug. 10, 1872, at which time the church had 16 members. There seem to have been no regular services held after Mr. Monfort's death. On March 15, 1874, Rev. C. H. McCreery, of Chetopa, and H. W. Stratton, of Oswego, who had been appointed a committee by the presbytery, visited the Piper school-house, in District No. 17. Mr. McCreery preached, after which the Labette Presbyterian church was organized, or, perhaps, more properly, reorganized, with the following members: James Morning, Charles Morning, John H. Hartin, Matthew Lewis, George Morning, George Cubbison, Louisa Cubbison, Margaret Hawkins, Jane Shelady, J. F. Piper, Mrs. E. Piper, Miss P. Piper, Lina Piper, Miriam Piper, A. B. Piper, Ray Piper, and Mrs. Mary Bennet. James Morning and Ray Piper were elected elders. The place of meeting was then changed to the Morning school-house, in District No. 48, where services continued to be held until the erection of the Montana church. Evening services were also held at Labette and Montana. At the time of organizing above referred to, Rev. S. W. Griffin was elected pastor, in which relation he continued till about the close of 1882. Following him, S. W. LaGrange and

W. Price filled the pulpit. For several years past the church has been without a pastor. Occasionally the minister at Oswego or some one else has preached for them. In 1878 a church building was erected in Montana, at a cost of about \$1,500. In 1900 this church building was sold to the Methodists, and the Montana Presbyterian church is now completely dissolved.

*Oswego.*—Rev. Cornelius V. Monfort was the first Presbyterian minister to locate in this county. He came to Oswego in March, 1868, and on April 26th preached the first Presbyterian sermon in the place. On June 30th a meeting was held at his house, at which eight were present to consider the organization of a church, and on Sunday, July 25, 1868, an organization was effected, with the following 11 members: Cornelius V. Monfort and wife S. E. Monfort, Dr. C. M. Gilkey and wife S. M. Gilkey and daughter Mary Gilkey, Mrs. R. A. Botsford, John Hutchinson, Mary Gaston, Alexander Cubbison and wife Rachel Cubbison, and Francis Swanwick. Francis Swanwick, Dr. C. M. Gilkey and John Hutchinson were elected trustees, and Dr. C. M. Gilkey and Alexander Cubbison were elected elders. On Nov. 15, 1868, Dr. Gilkey was ordained elder. The church records say the church was organized July 28, 1868, but this record as it now exists was probably copied some time after the occurrence, and the party who did it has evidently made a mistake and written the date the 28th instead of the 25th. Col. Swanwick kept a diary, which I now have, and under date of July 25, 1868, he says: "Went to town to assist in organizing First Presbyterian church, Old School, of Oswego; 11 members present; Dr. Gilkey and Mr. Cubbison elected elders." On Jan. 31, 1869, Rev. C. H. McCreery was present, and with Mr. Monfort

held the first communion service. In August Mr. Monfort began taking subscriptions for a church. In July, 1870, I. C. McGinnis and Alexander Mackie were made elders and T. N. Sickles and D. McArthur, deacons. Mr. Monfort resigned, and preached his farewell sermon on Oct. 9, 1870. Rev. S. N. D. Martin supplied the pulpit the next year, preaching his first sermon June 4, 1871; and he was succeeded during the spring or summer of 1872 by Rev. N. A. Rankin. Rev. H. W. Stratton filled the pulpit from April, 1873, to January, 1875. During his pastorate the church erected its house of worship, at a cost of about \$4,000, which was dedicated Dec. 28, 1873, by Rev. S. A. Stoddard. On June 27, 1879, the house was struck by lightning and one end somewhat shattered, but still not seriously damaged. A. F. Hale, A. Bixby (a Congregationalist), A. A. Trimper (a Lutheran), J. G. Venable, William Coleman, John Elliott, A. C. Junkin, A. G. Evans and J. N. McClung followed as pastors after Rev. H. W. Stratton left. Mr. McClung's pastorate extended from Oct. 1, 1891, until the last of August, 1893. Dr. J. F. Hendy, president of the college, then supplied the pulpit until the close of 1895, when Dr. William Bishop, who succeeded Dr. Hendy as acting president of the college, also supplied the church pulpit until June, 1896. Dr. M. H. Reasor, who then took charge of the college, supplied the pulpit from June, 1896, to August, 1897. Rev. William Sickles was a stated supply from January, 1898, to April, 1900, when the present pastor, Rev. E. C. Phil-  
leo, took charge. The church has had a slow but a continued growth. In the fall of 1886 the young people started a prayer meeting, which was kept up until February, 1891, when it was organized into the Westminster League, with a membership of 16, and the following

officers: President, Margaret Carpenter; vice-president, Blanche Waskey; secretary and treasurer, Myrtle Stonecipher; organist, Marie Park. On April 7, 1892, this league was changed to a Young People's Society Christian Endeavor, with 18 members, and officers as follows: Lincoln J. Allen, president; Belle Holenberg, vice-president; recording secretary, Blanche Waskey, corresponding secretary and treasurer, James McClung.

*Edna.*—Originally this church was organized as the Ripon Presbyterian church. Rev. C. H. McCreery preached at the Ripon school-house, in District No. 49, during the summer of 1874, where, on Nov. 8th of that year, assisted by Rev. H. W. Stratton, he organized the church, with a membership of 12, of whom James Scott and Thomas H. Bruner were elected ruling elders. Mr. McCreery supplied the pulpit till 1881, since which time J. N. Young, J. M. Crawford, and J. S. McClung have been its pastors. Mr. Crawford served either as pastor or supply from April 1, 1883, to November, 1889, and again took charge March 1, 1892, serving for one year. The church was then without a pastor until the fall of 1894, when R. M. Wimmel began preaching and remained in charge until the fall of 1896. In the fall of 1897 he again took charge, and so continued until June, 1899. After Mr. Wimmel quit, in the fall of 1896, B. F. Smith supplied the pulpit a few weeks; with this exception, the church was without a preacher during the year between Mr. Wimmel's two terms. The church was again without a minister from June, 1899, until the spring of 1900, when J. M. Crawford was again employed; he is still in charge. At its organization, the church had 12 members; its membership now is about 50. During its history it has had something like 130 different



members. In the fall of 1878 preparations were made for a church building at Kingston, which was made ready for occupancy before the close of that year; it was fully completed the following spring, and, on June 8, 1879, was dedicated by Rev. Timothy Hill. In one week thereafter a cyclone partly removed the church from its foundation. In 1884 the presbytery changed the name from Ripon to Kingston. In 1887 the building was removed to Edna, and the name changed from Kingston to Edna.

*Altamont.*—Rev. C. H. McCreery commenced preaching at the residence of D. C. Constant, in Hackberry township, as early as 1870, and on June 9, 1871, at that place, assisted by Elam S. Hitchcock and Samuel Cellars, organized the Hackberry Presbyterian church, with the following members: Nancy A. Dougham, Margaret S. Blyner, James Emory, Mary Emory, Jennie Fellows, Michael Noel, Mary Noel, David C. Constant, Antoinette C. Constant, Josiah Raybourn, Lucretia Raybourn, Mary J. Hannigan. Michael Noel and David C. Constant were elected ruling elders. The place of meeting was afterwards changed to the Newell school-house, in District No. 71. This church was ministered to by C. H. McCreery, C. V. Monfort, and H. W. Stratton. In April, 1879, the name of Hackberry church was ordered stricken from the roll, and a committee was appointed to organize a new church. The Elston church, as successor of the Hackberry church, was organized at the Elston school-house, in District No. 80, on June 29, 1879, by Rev. S. W. Griffin and Rev. C. H. McCreery. James Paxton and Martin Reamer were elected ruling elders. The following year the name was changed to Altamont. A church building was erected in Altamont in 1880, Rev. S. W. Griffin preaching the first sermon therein on May 16th. Its

earlier pastors were: S. W. Griffin, J. N. Young, J. D. Todd and S. W. LeGrange. For a number of years the church had no pastor, and was only supplied irregularly. Since 1892 the church has had the following stated supplies: J. S. McClung, in 1893; J. D. Todd, 1894-96; R. M. Wimmel, 1896-98; J. B. Sawyer, 1900. During the past few years the building has been improved, shade trees planted, and more interest manifested in the work.

*Lake Creek.*—Eighteen members of the church at Chetopa took letters and united in forming the Lake Creek Presbyterian church, which was organized January 6, 1884, by Rev. C. H. McCreery, assisted by E. S. Hitchcock. Arthur Baty was elected ruling elder. A church building was erected the following spring, at a cost of about \$1,200, which was dedicated in April, by W. S. H. Keyes. Mr. McCreery had preached at the Baty school-house, in District No. 60, for several years before the organization of the church. After its organization Rev. J. M. Crawford became pastor, in April, 1884, and served until November, 1889. From April 1, 1890, to April 1, 1891, Rev. J. S. McClung was stated supply. Rev. J. L. Griffes supplied the church a part of the time during 1891. Rev. J. M. Crawford came March 1, 1892, and continued as pastor until the church was joined with that of Bartlett in the following year.

*Bartlett.*—The first Presbyterian sermon in Bartlett was preached in the school-house, Nov. 3, 1889, by Rev. J. M. Crawford. Rev. J. S. McClung preached there occasionally while he had charge of the Lake Creek church, and Rev. J. M. Crawford preached there every two weeks from March 1, 1892, to the date of the consolidation with the Lake Creek congregation. No organization was effected at Bart-



lett until the removal of the church building from Lake Creek to Bartlett, which occurred in the fall of 1893. It was repaired and ready for occupancy in February, 1894. The Lake Creek church was then merged in that of Bartlett. The following-named have served as pastors: J. M. Crawford, L. J. Hawkins, R. M. Wimmell and H. M. Gilbert, who is the present incumbent. A missionary society was organized in April, 1895, of which Miss Jennie W. Baty has been president since its organization. A children's Willing Workers' Mission Band has also been maintained, and part of the time a Y. P. S. C. E. On August 15, 1900, the church building was burned to the ground by a fire supposed to have been communicated by a locomotive. Since then the church has worshipped in the Methodist church building. It is the purpose of the members of the church to rebuild as soon as possible.

*Chetopa.*—The First Presbyterian church of Chetopa was organized on Sept. 20, 1868, by Rev. C. H. McCreery, assisted by Rev. James Lewis, with the following members: Samuel Cellars, Mrs. Martha Cellars, Mrs. Margaret J. Lenhart, Samuel H. Carr, George F. Smith and Lorenzo Billington. Of these, Samuel Cellars and Samuel H. Carr were installed as ruling elders. The first trustees were Willoughby Doudna, S. H. Carr, Samuel Cellars, C. P. Spaulding and C. P. Smith. For the first two years the services of the church were held in Spaulding's Hall, over a saloon, on the southeast corner of Third and Walnut streets. The town company having donated a number of lots to the church, a part were sold, and about \$1,000 realized therefrom. Generous subscriptions were also made by the citizens, and in the fall of 1869 preparations were made for erecting a building, and the work was commenced. On December 1st of

that year the frame of the building was raised, and by August, 1870, it was entirely finished, at a cost of about \$4,500. Quite a feature of the financial history of this church, as it was more or less of that of many of the churches in the county, especially during the early years of their work, was that of raising money by festivals. In July, 1869, this church held one of its most successful festivals, at which over \$300 was cleared. The church was dedicated, free of debt, Aug. 28, 1870, by Rev. Timothy Hill, D. D. One of the noteworthy events in connection with this church is the long-continued pastorate of Mr. McCreery, extending from its organization, in 1868, to May 1, 1886. No other church in the county has had such an experience. Before the close of Mr. McCreery's pastorate, his health becoming impaired, he took a vacation for a year, during which time the pulpit was supplied by Rev. V. M. King. Mr. McCreery was followed in July, 1886, by Rev. Isaac Brundage, who served until his death. Rev. J. L. Griffes succeeded Mr. Brundage, and was in turn followed by Rev. J. L. Hawkins, who was pastor from 1893 to 1896. Rev. H. M. Gilbert has been pastor since Sept. 1, 1896. The membership of the church is about 150. In the latter part of 1898 the church building was remodeled at a cost of about \$1,600, and rededicated Jan. 15, 1899, by Dr. S. D. Fleming. Within a month,—on February 12, 1899,—this building burned to the ground. The church then decided on changing location and rebuilding. The property owned and for so many years occupied by Rev. C. H. McCreery as a residence was purchased; the house standing thereon was moved a little from its original location and fitted up for a manse, and room made for the new church building on the same property. The pastor went east and secured

most of the money with which to pay for the new building. Between the burning of the old church edifice and the completion of the new one services were held in the opera house. Work on the new building was commenced in December, 1899, and on June 3, 1900, it was dedicated by Dr. S. D. Fleming. The cost of the building and furnishings was nearly \$6,000.

*Bethel.*—S. W. Griffin and W. B. Truax, being directed by the presbytery so to do, organized a Presbyterian church in the school-house in District No. —, on Nov. 29, 1892. S. E. W. Brown, James Venable and J. S. Gulick were elected ruling elders, and L. T. McElroy and Monroe Mathers, deacons. S. W. Griffin acted as pastor till June, 1885, when he was succeeded by A. S. Sharpless.

*Mound Valley.*—In November, 1879, Rev. C. H. McCreery and S. W. Griffin organized a Presbyterian church at Mound Valley, with 10 members. Wm. D. Allen and Wm. Culp were elected ruling elders. S. W. Griffin and J. N. Young preached for them. The members having mostly moved away in the spring of 1883, the presbytery disorganized the church and struck the same from the roll. Rev. J. D. Todd, who had been employed by the synod to preach at different points and look after the church's interest in vacant fields, came to Mound Valley and talked with several who then or who had formerly held church relations with the Presbyterian church, and at his solicitation a meeting was held at the Methodist church, on March 30, 1884, at which some eight or ten were present; J. C. McEwen presided and Dr. J. Lemon acted as clerk. It was there resolved to organize a Presbyterian church at that point as soon as arrangements could be made to do so. They adjourned to meet in four weeks, and on April 27, 1884, Rev. J. D. Todd preached a sermon; after

which Mrs. E. A. Copelantz, Eliza Copelantz, J. C. McEwen, Mrs. Olive McEwen, James W. Evans and wife, H. K. Baker, Mrs. Myra J. Baker, E. M. Bell, Mrs. J. T. Bell, Dr. J. Lemon, Mrs. A. Lemon, Henry Allen, Mrs. Jane Allen, Josie Allen, Mary B. Allen, Robert A. Foresman, Mrs. Jane Foresman, Mrs. Henrietta Foresman, Mrs. Roxanna Savage, and Joseph Crawford presented their credentials, which were approved. A third meeting was held at the same place on May 10, 1884, at which H. K. Baker was chairman and Henry Allen, clerk; whereupon it was resolved to proceed with the organization of a church by the election of two ruling elders and two deacons. J. C. McEwen and Henry Allen were chosen as elders and Dr. J. Lemon and H. K. Baker as deacons. On May 25, 1884, the church was duly organized, by Rev. S. W. Griffin, of Cheryvale; C. H. McCreery, of Chetopa; and J. D. Todd, of Independence, who were sent there as a committee of the Neosho presbytery. Mr. Griffin preached the sermon, after which the elders and deacons were ordained. Arrangements were made for holding services in the Baptist church, and Rev. J. D. Todd was employed to preach every other Sabbath, in the afternoon. In August, 1884, the church bought a building known as Pattison's Hall, which had been built by the Methodists as their first house of worship; after they sold it, it was removed to its present location, in block 22. That fall and winter the building was occupied by a department of the public schools, and by the church only on Sunday. In April, 1885, this building was suitably fitted up as a place of worship. Mr. Todd closed his labors as pastor on May 31, 1885, and was followed on June 7th by Rev. A. S. Sharpless, who stayed till July, 1886. The pulpit remained vacant till October of that year, when Rev. J. M.

Crawford was employed to preach every two weeks in connection with his work at Edna. This continued till March, 1888, when Mr. Todd again took charge, and continued till Oct. 1st of the same year. Little religious life was manifested from this time till April, 1889, when Rev. J. S. McClung was called to the work, where he remained till September, 1891. Oct. 15, 1891, Rev. James H. Clark took charge, and remained until November, 1892. In 1893-94 J. C. McElroy served as a stated supply. R. M. Wimmell was pastor from August, 1894, to October, 1896, and again served them as stated supply from October, 1897, until 1899. Since then B. F. Smith, J. Michel, J. M. Crawford, J. L. Sawyer and A. E. Van Olden have supplied the pulpit. On June 10, 1885, the church was incorporated. In 1890 it finished paying for its building and stood clear of debt.

*Emmons.*—On Jan. 8, 1873, Rev. Mr. Lackey, of Illinois, organized a Presbyterian church at the Emmons school-house, in District No. 84. James Sweet, Joseph Kearns and Jacob Crane were elected and ordained elders, and Alexander Duncan and Otto Wilson deacons. On March 5, 1873, Rev. Sidney Allen was installed as pastor, Rev. S. A. Stoddard preaching the installment sermon. After an existence of some two years the organization was abandoned.

*Parsons.*—While a Methodist preacher who came of his own accord preceded them, the Presbyterians claim to have sent the first preacher to hold services in Parsons. Rev. H. H. Cambern, under the direction of the Board of Home Missions, came to Parsons in February, 1871, and commenced preaching in a saloon. Mr. Cambern held services frequently during the spring and summer.

The First Presbyterian church of Parsons was organized Sept. 24, 1871, by H. H. Cam-

bern as moderator. J. V. Thornton, J. E. Wilkins and J. J. Blause were elected elders. The membership at organization was 16. In December, 1871, they commenced to take subscriptions for a church building, but ground was not broken till August, 1872. The church was completed and dedicated Aug. 2, 1874, by Rev. C. H. McCreery. In the meantime Rev. S. F. Farmer was installed as pastor. An addition was made to the church in 1882, another one in 1883, and a third in 1891. In May, 1872, Rev. J. H. Metier was employed to succeed Mr. Cambern as pastor. Since then the following have supplied the pulpit, some as supply and others as pastor: Joel Kelsey, S. F. Farmer, H. G. Miller, F. R. Morton, W. S. H. Keyes, J. K. Fowler, — Shields, W. S. Davis, Edward F. Walker, J. M. Wright, and E. O. Hart. Mr. Wright's pastorate closed in 1893, and he was succeeded by the present pastor, E. O. Hart. Under Mr. Hart's pastorate, the church building has been enlarged and improved at a cost of about \$3,000. At present they are building a manse which is to be commodious and well finished. At present the church has a membership of upwards of 400. In 1882 a Young People's Society was organized for the purpose of holding devotional meetings. At different times it had for its president Miss Montgomery, E. H. McCreery, F. H. Shaub, W. H. Martin, Lena Venable, W. J. McKnight, and George B. Comings. On September 8, 1892, a reorganization of the Young People's Society was had, and formed into the Y. P. S. C. E., with George B. Comings as president.

#### UNITED BRETHREN.

The work of this denomination in this county has been somewhat scattered, and I have not been able to get access to records that

would give me definite information respecting the work at many points. I am informed that the following-named have been presiding elders in the district embracing Labette county: B. A. Spring, J. R. Chambers, G. H. Hinton, C. H. Jones, J. K. Spencer, H. B. McHugh, F. M. Gillett and N. L. Vesey.

*Parsons.*—In February, 1868, a class of about ten members was formed at the house of James Beaver, some few miles from the present site of Parsons, by J. Buckmaster as pastor, James Beaver as class-leader, Reason Tippie, steward, and P. M. Grant, elder. Those comprising this class were Reason Tippie, Rachel Tippie, N. M. Portrum, C. Portrum, J. Beaver, J. L. Beaver, A. Pringle, G. Sheckell, G. Botsford, and C. Billings. This class was maintained in that part of the county with more or less cohesiveness for several years, and formed the basis of the class at Parsons, which was organized in February, 1875, with a membership of about 15, including Abraham Cary and wife, James Beaver and wife, N. M. Portrum and wife, Seth Fisher and wife, Lizzie Kellogg, and having G. W. Gossett for pastor. Jan. 3, 1877, the church provided a lot and moved thereon the tabernacle which they had purchased from the M. E. church. They used it as a house of worship until 1894, when they disposed of the building and secured a site at the corner of Twenty-fourth street and Crawford avenue, on which they erected a commodious church edifice, and a parsonage, on adjoining lots, all at a cost of about \$2,500. The church was impeded in its progress for quite a number of years by the great division of the church throughout the country that took place in 1885. Among the pastors who have served this church are: G. W. Gossett, A. B. McGrew, J. W. Baughman, William Theope, C. H. Jones, R. C. Hamil, D. Richardson, W.

M. Griffin and G. H. Hinton. The church has a good Young People's Society, both senior and junior branches.

*Dennis.*—In the winter of 1870-71, Rev. Mr. Goodwin, of the United Brethren church, held protracted meetings in the log school-house in District No. 38, which resulted in several conversions and accessions to that denomination. Among these probably the most active in his afterwork was J. H. Beatty. A church was then organized, which has maintained its work ever since. In the spring of 1883 they built a church at Dennis, and in the fall of 1884 the conference of the State held its session there. Among its pastors have been Revs. Messrs. Evans, Stallard, Hammers, Winrick, Gossett, Himer, Chambers, French, Rice, Hammel, Shope.

*Mortimer.*—Almost from the first settlement of the county, religious services have been held in the Carpenter school-house, in District No. 30—sometimes by one denomination and sometimes by another. Of late years preaching has occasionally been conducted by ministers of the United Brethren church. In the spring of 1891, Rev. Mr. Hammel, of this denomination, held a protracted meeting which resulted in the organization of quite a strong class. It was soon felt that a church building was needed, and the Mortimer family were active in securing its erection at the Mortimer station. Its first board of trustees consisted of Emanuel Mortimer, James T. Mortimer, J. K. Duncan, T. E. Killian, and G. A. Waid. The church cost about \$1,000, and was dedicated June 5, 1892, by Bishop Castle. Since Mr. Hammel's work, in 1892, the church has had the following pastors: — Daugherty, J. S. Christlieb, R. C. Hamil, J. I. Robinson, H. D. Moore, J. W. Baughman, T. J. Darling. — Williams.

*Mound Valley Circuit.*—The south part of the county has usually, I am informed, been included in one circuit, embracing a number of appointments, among others Altamont, Mound Valley, Trenton, Valeda, Hackberry and, perhaps, some others; this circuit has been known sometimes as Hackberry, sometimes as Oswego, and sometimes as Mound Valley, but the same minister has supplied all points. Among the preachers who have been on this circuit (besides those separately mentioned in connection with the Hackberry church) are: J. R. Evans, J. S. Christlieb, G. W. Beard, B. F. Woods, A. W. Potter, J. R. Robinson and H. D. Moore.

*Altamont.*—A class was formed in a school-house near the southeast corner of Labette township, in 1872, which was moved to Altamont in 1874. It has been maintained but a part of the time.

*Trenton.*—A class was organized at the school-house in District No. 67, in Howard township, March 31, 1885, with A. Bessy as leader. Services continued to be held there.

*Hackberry.*—In the fall of 1881 Rev. J. M. Magie, assisted by Rev. T. D. Bickham, held a protracted meeting at the Hiatt school-house, in District No. 26, and at its close organized a United Brethren class. A part of the time since then the preachers who have supplied this class, among other appointments, have preached at Pleasant View, Bowman and Trenton school-houses; also at Altamont and Parsons. Pastors: 1883, J. A. Evert; 1884, W. H. Sapp; 1885, S. W. Redman; 1886, Mrs. J. M. Magie and J. A. Evert; 1887, D. B. Finch; 1888-89, F. M. Gillett; 1890, Rev. Mr. Huffman; 1892, D. W. Juday. The following persons have served as presiding elders: B. A. Spring, J. R. Chambers, G. H. Hinton, C. H. Jones, J. K. Spencer. The following

have been secretaries of the quarterly conference, each one or more terms: J. M. Magie, E. S. Bessy, Anna Riddick, A. H. Mickey. At the last quarterly conference in 1891, John Riddick, Christian Helwig, David Romine, Louis Zink and A. H. Mickey were elected trustees, and directed to take steps to secure the erection of a church building, which has since been erected on the northwest quarter of section 11 in Hackberry township, at a cost of about \$800. The church was dedicated July 16, 1893. This is the only church building this denomination has in the south half of the county.

#### EVANGELICAL.

Rev. Henry Mattill was the first minister of this denomination to preach in the county. F. W. Voegelein was next sent, and after him, his brother, A. J. Voegelein, came and organized a class in 1879, at the Sylvan Dale school-house in District No. 79. After the organization of this class, the pastors have been: 1879-83, A. J. Voegelein; 1883, Charles Linge; 1884-86, J. W. Keiser; 1887, A. J. Flickinger; 1888-90, H. S. Bowers; 1891-92, M. J. Stenimetz; 1893-94, Omer Butler; 1894-97, B. H. Hobbs; 1898-1901, John M. Frierer. During Mr. Keiser's pastorate, in the winter of 1884-85, a successful revival was held, resulting in a large addition to the membership of the church. This was followed by steps toward erecting a church building in Dennis. The church was completed and dedicated in 1887, under the pastorate of Mr. Flickinger. It is the only church building this denomination has in the county.

#### METHODIST PROTESTANT.

Sometime in the 'seventies a class of this denomination was formed at Parsons, and dur-



ing its existence had N. K. Shimp and — McKesson among its ministers. After doing some work the class became entirely disorganized. In 1880 Rev. J. H. Luse held a protracted meeting in the southwestern portion of the county, and formed a class or two. A church has been erected at Morton station, in the edge of Montgomery county. A class has also been organized at Mt. Triumph school-house, in District No. 63, in Mound Valley township. Rev. A. Slater and Rev. Abner Green, with others, have preached in several places in the county.

#### THE METHODIST CHURCH.

A class of this branch of the great Methodist family was organized at the Emmons school-house, in District No. 84, as early as 1873, and was maintained for several years, but finally abandoned. The only two ministers they had, so far as I have learned, were Revs. Messrs. VanCleve and Wayland.

#### FREE METHODIST.

A few classes of this branch of the church have existed in the county for quite a number of years. They have been somewhat few in number, and have never attempted the erection of any church building, so far as I have learned. They have held meetings at various points in school-houses. At one time Rev. Thomas D. Bickham, before he started the Salvation Church of Christ, was a preacher in this denomination, and some time prior to 1880, O. P. Lineback had ministerial oversight for the county.

#### AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

*Parsons.*—Rev. A. H. Daniels, of the A. M. E. church, came to Labette county in the

spring of 1876, and organized classes at Oswego and Parsons. In June of that year he commenced to raise funds with which to build a church at Parsons. Lot 17 in block 17 was secured as a site in July, 1876, and soon thereafter a building was commenced. Messrs. French, Cavanaugh and Miller were the first trustees. Commencing with 1891, the pastors have been: 1891, J. Allen; 1892, M. Wooton; 1893-95, J. R. Ransom; 1896, E. Harrison; 1897-98, A. C. Terrill; 1899-1900, M. Collins. This and the Oswego church were jointly served by the same pastors for several years. About 1895 they erected a good brick church building at a cost of about \$2,600.

*Oswego.*—The class at this place was organized in the spring of 1876, about the same time as the one at Parsons. The organization was effected by Rev. A. H. Daniels, who acted as pastor that year. During the year a neat frame church was erected on lot 3, in block 16. A few years thereafter a dwelling-house was purchased and moved onto lots 1 and 2 just north of the church, to be used for a parsonage. The pastors of the church have been: A. H. Daniels, W. F. Hedgman, L. W. McCormick, J. W. Walton, J. E. Weir, John Brewer, J. L. Hatton, A. M. Ward, Thomas Mudd, Pompey Johnson, John Boyd, J. E. Bricus, S. H. Baker, A. J. King, E. H. Harden, J. L. Leonard, — Smith, A. E. Clark, J. R. Nelson, P. Williams, and L. Parks. Their church building was rented by the board of education for several years, in which to hold one department of the colored school.

*Chetopa.*—The class at this place dates from 1881, and has not maintained services all the time since then. It has a church building. Its pastors have been those who were at the same time serving the Oswego church, and who are named in connection with that work.



## THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH

Was the first Protestant denomination to hold religious services in this county. Dr. Lisle says: "The first preaching in Chetopa was by an old missionary of the Methodist Church South, on or about the first of December, 1857, and once every four weeks until spring." The name of this preacher was J. P. Barnaby. He was succeeded in October, 1858, by Rev. J. E. Bryan, who preached every three weeks during the next two years, when he was sent to Council Grove. In the fall of 1860 Mr. Foreman succeeded Mr. Bryan and remained a year, when Mr. Robbins was sent to the charge. The latter was in sympathy with the Rebellion, and was about to be hung by some Kansas soldiers who caught him in Cherokee county. He was let go on condition that he would leave the country, which he did, going directly to Texas. This closed the work of the church till after the war. Of these services Dr. Lisle says: "The preaching was in some settler's house until the school-house was built, in the spring of 1858, when it was in that regularly. It being about the center of the settlement, gave all parties a chance to attend, which they did pretty generally." When the county commenced to settle after the war there were quite a number came who had been members of this church in their former homes, but scarcely enough in any one settlement to form and maintain a class. In fact, I do not know of the formation of a class at any place in the county, although there may have been some formed. However, preachers of that denomination, either local or those in charge of work in adjacent territory, occasionally preached at a few places in the county. Among the places where they sometimes held services was the log church, between Oswego and Montana.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

Several local preachers of this denomination settled in the county and commenced preaching and holding services in their respective localities as early as the fall of 1867, and perhaps even earlier in the year. Oswego was the only point at which a class was formed prior to the meeting of conference on March 30, 1868. At that conference the Oswego circuit was formed, embracing all of Labette county, and included in the Emporia district, of which Rev. C. R. Rice was presiding elder. The work remained a part of the Emporia district the following year also, under the charge of Mr. Rice. In March, 1870, the Oswego district was organized, including within its limits all of the county, with Rev. C. E. Lewis, P. E. The work remained in the Oswego district with the same presiding elder until April 1, 1873, when it was placed in the Humboldt district, in charge of Rev. A. K. Johnson, P. E. This arrangement continued two years. In March, 1875, Parsons was placed in the Fort Scott district, where it has ever since remained. At the same time, the Independence district was formed, and all the county except Parsons has ever since been in that district. The presiding elders of the Fort Scott district have been: 1875-77, D. P. Mitchell; 1877-81, B. Kelley; 1881-85, E. C. Boaz; 1885-91, A. G. Robb; 1891-97, J. E. Brant; 1897—, John H. Price. The presiding elders of the Independence district have been: 1875-79, S. E. Pendleton; 1879, D. P. Mitchell; 1880-82, A. T. Burris; 1882-86, Ananias Cullison; 1886-90, J. A. Hyden; 1890-96, S. S. Murphy; 1896-98, Bernard Kelly; 1898—, Alexander R. Maclean. Before the close of his last year Mr. Kelly resigned the district, and Mr. Maclean was appointed in his stead.

*German.*—While there may have been occasional preaching prior to that time, the Methodist Episcopal German work was regularly started in this county in the spring of 1892, by Rev. John Koehler, who commenced preaching at the Timber Hill appointment. In July, 1892, work was commenced on a new church three and a half miles south of Dennis. It was finished, and on August 28th was dedicated by their presiding elder, Rev. C. Harriman. At their conference the last of August the work in the county was organized into the Parsons circuit, and put in charge of Rev. John Koehler again. A class was to be formed at Parsons at once.

*Oswego.*—The First Methodist Episcopal church of Oswego was organized March 1, 1868, in the little frame building that then stood at the northeast corner of block 33. John Mark, a local preacher living in the township, effected the organization, with 13 members, including himself, as follows: John Mark, wife and daughter, Elisha Hammer and wife, John Logan and wife, William Logan and wife, Job Beal and wife, Eliza Elliott, and Mary A. Cowell. Mr. Mark had been preaching in town for some weeks previous, alternating with Mr. Canfield, Congregationalist; Messrs. Richardson and Flouronoy, Baptists, and perhaps others. But one service was held in town at a time, all meeting in the room above referred to. At the ensuing conference, which convened on March 30, 1868, a young man living in what was then known as the Labette City settlement, near the mouth of Labette Creek, named John S. Harryman, was admitted into the conference on trial. All of Labette county was formed into the Oswego circuit, and Mr. Harryman was sent to it as its first pastor. At the first quarterly conference, which was held June 6, 1868, in Read Broth-

ers' hardware store, which was then just inclosed, but into which they had not yet moved, Elder Rice appointed David Stanfield, a local preacher, as assistant to Mr. Harryman, and during the balance of the year the two occupied the field as best they could. Since the first year the pastors have been as follows, commencing after conference in March or April of the year named: 1869, Patterson McNutt; 1870, H. W. Conley; 1871, J. E. Bryan; 1872-73, J. B. Orwig; 1874, B. C. Swarts; 1875-76, P. T. Rhodes; 1877, M. L. Gates; 1878-79, D. T. Summerville; 1880-81, T. S. Hunt; 1882-84, H. McBirney; 1885, J. A. Hyden; 1886-87, J. B. Ford; 1888-90, R. P. Hammons; 1891-92, Ananias Cullison; 1893-94, John Maclean; 1895, C. R. Rice; 1896, N. V. Moore; 1896-97, S. L. Chase; 1898-1901, S. A. Ross. During his pastorate, Mr. Moore's health failed and he had to resign his work in the middle of the year. There have been no records preserved of the first year's work, and I have not been able to learn who were the officers for that year. J. F. Molesworth was elected recording steward for the ensuing year at the fourth quarterly conference, Feb. 6, 1869. When conference met, the north part of the county in which he lived was put into another work; so that he never served. At the first quarterly conference for 1869 A. S. Cory was elected recording steward, but only served for that session, and at the second quarterly conference the office was declared vacant, and J. Q. Cowell was elected and served out the balance of that year. At the fourth quarterly conference for that year, held on Dec. 29, 1869, Nelson Case was elected recording steward, and by reelections continued to serve till conference in March, 1879. The following year I. W. Patrick served in that position. At the close of that year David Zimmerman

was elected, but declined to serve; and at the first quarterly conference for the following year, held May 3, 1880, Nelson Case was again elected recording steward, which position he has held, by annual reelections, since. At the close of the first year the quarterly conference asked the presiding elder to secure a division of the work. This was done, and during 1869-70 Oswego and Chetopa, with the intervening territory, constituted a circuit. This arrangement lasted but a year, for at the conference in March, 1870, both Chetopa and Oswego were substantially made stations; each had, a part of the time after that, one or two appointments in the county attached to them, in which the ministers at these points would preach Sunday afternoons. At the close of the first year the presiding elder reported that a subscription of \$1,500 had been secured with which to build a church at Oswego. However, little or nothing came of this subscription. Before the close of Mr. McNutt's pastorate he had secured rock to be placed on the ground for a foundation, he and Mr. Mark doing a large part of the work themselves. When Mr. Conley came, all felt that the first thing to do was to secure the erection of a church. During Mr. McNutt's pastorate services were held in Dr. Crouse's building on lot 5 in block 39, which was now found inadequate to the demands, and Wells' Hall, near the northeast corner of block 32, was rented. Work was commenced on the church building early in the summer, and by the middle of summer it was inclosed. Services were then held in it in its unfinished condition. In the fall the spire was built, the house plastered and seated, and on Dec. 18, 1870, it was dedicated by Dr. W. R. Davis. The parsonage was built during Mr. Orwig's

pastorate. On July 24, 1889, an Epworth League was organized in connection with this church, with Blanche Case president, and Cloe McLane, secretary. The League has been maintained with a good degree of prosperity up to the present.

The Second M. E. church is composed of colored members. It was organized in April, 1879, and has had the following pastors: Robert Rector, W. B. Avery, Daniel Ross, Thomas Allen, M. Bell, J. A. Lee, E. Q. Plummer, C. P. Thompson, James J. Cable, J. W. Talbert, T. M. Hooks, J. W. Patton, — Thomas, T. Ross, and — Jackson. Soon after organizing the members bought a two-story store building and moved it to lot 12 in block 15, the lower room of which they used for a church, and the upper part for a parsonage. The building becoming somewhat racked, they caused it to be cut down to a one-story building, which they still occupy for church purposes.

*Neosho Township.*—More or less preaching in various parts of the county was undoubtedly done by the Methodist local preachers who settled in the county, of which no account has been preserved. Rev. Joseph Rogers was a local preacher who settled in Neosho township in the spring of 1867. Very soon after his settlement there, it is said, he commenced preaching in private houses in several places. This was the first preaching they had in that township. After the school-houses were built, more regular services were held in them. Classes were formed at the Hopkins school-house, in District No. 62; at the New Hope school-house, in District No. 15; at the Lone Elm school-house, in District No. 21; and perhaps at other points. But in few, if any, of these points were permanent classes

formed or services held regularly, for many years. It may be said that Center Chapel is an outcome of some of this work.

*Center Chapel.*—About the year 1878 Rev. C. A. King preached at the Franklin school-house, in District No. 55, and organized a class. Soon after this it was put with the Labette and Montana work, where it has been since. In 1887, under the charge of Rev. J. S. Budd, the chapel was built, on the northwest corner of section 19, in Neosho township, and dedicated by Rev. Allen Buckner. The building was erected on mortgaged land, and the mortgagor failing to pay, the mortgage was foreclosed, and the land, together with the church, was sold in the summer of 1892. It cost the church nearly \$500 to redeem their property.

*Montana.*—As early as 1868 a class seems to have been formed at Montana, with James Livesay as class-leader. Preaching was had occasionally by ministers in charge of neighboring work. In 1871 the Montana circuit was formed, and placed in charge of Rev. T. B. Palmer. From that time on to the present it has been united with Labette and has been served by the same ministers, a list of whom is given under that head. The church was incorporated January 23, 1892. A contract for the purchase of the Christian church building was made in 1892, and for a time the same was occupied by the Methodists; but the Christians becoming dissatisfied with the sale, it was rescinded. The Methodists were then without property of their own until 1900, when they purchased the Presbyterian church building, which they have repaired and are now using.

*Labette.*—The Methodist class at Labette was organized in the spring or summer of 1871, by Rev. T. B. Palmer, who was in charge of the Montana circuit. Services were held in

the school-house. The next year it formed a part of the Parsons circuit, in charge of Rev. J. W. Fox. In 1873 this, with Montana, was supplied by Rev. H. W. Conley, and the same arrangement continued during 1874. In March, 1875, Rev. J. W. McIntosh was appointed to the Montana and Labette circuit. In 1876 Rev. P. A. Pearson was appointed, but failed to take charge of the work, and it was supplied a part of the year by Rev. Jesse Williams, who was again appointed to the work in March, 1877. In March, 1878, the South Parsons circuit was organized, and included Labette. Rev. W. B. Poinsett and Rev. A. S. Freed had charge of the work, the former living north of Mound Valley and the latter at Montana. In March, 1879, Labette and Montana were cut off from the South Parsons circuit and put in charge of W. B. Poinsett, who got the people at Labette to purchase a house and put on the church lots, which had been donated, for a parsonage, and moved into it, and stayed there for three years. The school-house having been blown down, Mr. Poinsett preached for a time in the depot, and afterwards in the Baptist church. The same year the church was built, and on Oct. 5, 1879, was dedicated by Rev. D. P. Mitchell. During the winter a protracted meeting was held, resulting in quite a large number of conversions. In March, 1881, Rev. D. F. Holtz was sent to Labette, and the following year Rev. William Shambaugh. He was followed in 1883 by Rev. C. W. Swarts. The next year Rev. H. J. Walker was appointed, but failed to come; Rev. J. S. Budd was then appointed, and remained for three years from March, 1885. In March, 1888, Rev. Salem Hedges was put in charge of the work, and served as pastor until March, 1892. Since Mr. Hedges was pastor the church has had the following

pastors: J. D. Skaggs, one year; P. G. Wager, one year; V. Staley, one year; John P. Martin and Ernest Everett, one year; W. M. Betty, one and a third years,—he died during his second year's service; J. R. Hawkins, one and two-thirds years; D. M. Campbell, two years.

*Spring Valley*.—About 1869 or 1870 an acre of ground was purchased on the north-west corner of section 32, in Liberty township, which was set out to trees and a cemetery laid out thereon. About 1871 a frame store building was purchased and removed to it from Elston. This was remodeled into a church. This has formed one of the regular appointments of the Labette circuit almost from its organization, although at that time it belonged to the Elston circuit and the next year to the Timber Hill circuit, both of which were in charge of Rev. R. P. Bukey.

*Stover*.—In the fall of 1869 a class was formed on Deer creek, in the west part of Fairview township, with I. W. Patrick, leader, and was admitted into the Oswego work. Rev. P. McNutt pastor, went out there occasionally and preached for them. Services were held in a private house or a vacant claim house. When the school-house was built in District No. 29, the class moved to that point, where it has since been maintained. The class was organized at the Stover school-house about the last of December, 1869, or first of January, 1870, by Rev. R. P. Bukey. E. B. Wheeler was the first to hand in his letter, and George Pfaff was the second. For a number of years it was attached to Oswego, but in 1880 it was made a part of the Labette work, and still continues in that circuit. For a few years past, the class at Stover has been occupying the church built by the people in that neighborhood, to

which the officers of the Church of God obtained title.

*Dennis*.—This circuit was formed at the conference held in March, 1885, and J. W. D. Anderson was appointed to the work. However, he never took charge of the work, and M. U. Ramsburg was appointed in his place. During the year a parsonage was secured in the town of Dennis. In March, 1886, P. H. Fisk was placed in charge of the circuit. During the next two years the work was divided, a part being united with the Galesburg circuit, under the charge of Rev. R. M. Cullison. In March, 1889, the Dennis circuit was reformed, and placed in charge of Rev. W. T. York. The work embraced the classes at St. Johns, Mount Zion, Excelsior, Pleasant Hill, Dennis, Moorhead; also, Shiloh, in Neosho county. The following year Rev. H. M. Hughes became pastor, but after six months' service was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Deaton. Rev. S. W. Gamble became pastor in March, 1891; he was succeeded in 1894 by P. G. Wager, who served the charge three years. At the end of that time, the Dennis circuit was discontinued and the place was made an appointment on another circuit.

*Excelsior*.—At an early day a class was formed at the Mount Triumph school-house, in District No. 63. Some few years ago, this class was moved to the Excelsior school-house, in District No. 88. Here services were conducted till about the fall of 1891, when, under the pastorate of Rev. S. W. Gamble, a nice frame church 26 by 48 feet was erected on the southwest quarter of section 21, in north Mound Valley township. It was dedicated January 17, 1892, by Rev. B. Kelley. During 1892 the organization of a Y. P. S. C. E. was effected.



*Pleasant Hill.*—A class was formed a number of years ago at the Pleasant Hill school-house, in District No. 77, where services were regularly held till 1889, when a new church was built under the pastorate of Rev. W. T. York, on the southwest corner of section 30, in Walton township, at a cost of about \$1,200. It was dedicated, free of debt, on Dec. 15, 1889, by Rev. J. E. Brant.

*Moorhead.*—A new church was built at this place, just in the edge of Neosho county, in 1891. Quite a large portion of the membership lives in Labette county.

*Fletcher Chapel.*—This class succeeds one of the oldest classes in the county. There were a number of Methodist families among the early settlers in the northeast part of Richland township, among them the Rice families, the Greens, and Rev. David Stanfield. A class was organized, probably as early as April or May, 1868. Arrangements were soon made for erecting a building: a site was selected on the east side of the east road leading from Oswego to Chetopa, near the northwest corner of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 10, and a foundation laid that spring. L. D. Bovee had the contract for putting up the building, and had it inclosed that season. A store building at old Labette, on section 14, was torn down, and out of the material the church was partially constructed; but it was never finished, and the class weakened rather than gained in strength. However, services were kept up and meetings were held in the school-house in District No. 3. The class was attached a part of the time to Oswego and a part of the time to Chetopa. It was decided to make another attempt to secure a building, and in the summer of 1883 a church was commenced, and by fall it was inclosed, and so far completed that

services were held in it in winter. It is located on section 4, in Richland township. It was completed during the spring, and dedicated June 22, 1884, by Rev. F. M. Sisson.

*Chetopa.*—This church shares the misfortune of many early enterprises, of having no record of its organization. It is said the first Methodist sermon in Chetopa, aside from the preaching before the war by ministers of the M. E. church South, was preached in September, 1867, in W. H. Reid's home, by Thomas B. Palmer, who carried the mail from Osage Mission to Chetopa, and who was also a local preacher. No regular preaching was had and no organization was effected till after the appointment of the preacher in 1868. Tradition says the church was organized in June, 1868, with 13 members. Soon after the organization a building committee, consisting of James C. Watson, G. W. Hoover and D. J. Doolen, was appointed, and had charge of the erection of the church building, which was commenced in November, 1868, and finished in 1870, the dedication sermon being preached by Rev. Thomas Bowman, D. D., on Sept. 4, 1870. In 1868 the church was under the charge of Rev. John S. Harryman, of Oswego, who had all of Labette county for his circuit. In the spring of 1869 Rev. Patterson McNutt was appointed to the joint work of Oswego and Chetopa. In 1870 Chetopa was made a station, with Rev. J. W. Lowry as pastor; he was returned in 1871, and was succeeded in the spring of 1872 by Rev. G. W. Pye, who also continued two years. The next two years Rev. John Paulson was pastor. In March, 1876, Rev. Hugh McBirney became pastor, and continued in charge till March, 1879, when Rev. R. M. Scott was appointed to the work, and remained till March, 1881, Rev. J. W. Fox was then in charge of the work for a year.



Rev. A. P. George came in March, 1882, and remained till August, 1883. In the following month Rev. W. W. Curnutt became pastor, and continued as such till March, 1886, when he was succeeded by Rev. C. T. Durboraw, who remained three years, and was succeeded May 1, 1890, by Rev. W. H. Mulvaney, in place of Rev. N. B. Johnson, who had been appointed to the church but failed to come. Mr. Mulvaney served as pastor five years, from 1890 to 1895; he was succeeded by John Maclean, who also served five years, being followed in 1900 by Harman J. Hoover, the present pastor. In the fall of 1870 a parsonage was built on a part of the church lots. In 1880 this parsonage was removed and a new parsonage built in the north part of the city. The church was built of stone, and at the time of its dedication was considered the finest in the county, it having cost some \$6,700. In October, 1894, the church was torn down and in its place there was erected that winter a fine, frame structure, commodious and convenient, costing about \$6,000, which was dedicated March 10, 1895, by Bishop Thomas Bowman. The church has had a number of revivals of marked power. In January, 1875, November and December, 1884, and the winter of 1885-86, the revival meetings resulted in large accessions to the church. During Mr. Mulvaney's pastorate, a revival, awakening a great interest and resulting in nearly 100 accessions to the church, took place at Fletcher Chapel. In the fall of 1900 about 100 conversions and accessions resulted from a revival held in the Chetopa church by Mr. Hoover. The members and probationers of the church now number about 375. November 4, 1889, an Epworth League was organized, with J. M. Cavaness as president.

Second M. E. church. This organization

was formed in 1881, and is composed of colored members. Some ten or twelve years ago they built a church, and have maintained regular services most of the time; recently, they have erected a tower on the church building and put in a bell. Robert Rector, W. B. Avery, Andrew Riley, Marion Bell, Thomas Allen, A. J. Lee, E. Q. Plummer, C. P. Thompson, A. R. Clarady, J. J. Cable, I. W. H. Terrill and M. L. Jackson have served as pastors. On Easter Sunday, 1892, a Y. P. S. C. E. was organized by Anna Householder and Ella Higby. The members of the other two colored churches in town unite in maintaining this society.

*Timber Hill Circuit.*—Methodism was organized in the west part of the county nearly as soon as there were any settlers there. Joseph McCormick, the first settler in Mound Valley township, was a Methodist, and his home became the place around which Methodism clustered. As early as 1867 a local preacher by the name of Spaugh preached at McCormick's house. Mr. Claspell writes me that "this was the first preaching I heard on Big Hill." In 1868 all of Labette county was embraced in the Oswego circuit, in charge of Rev. J. S. Harryman, with Rev. David Stanfield as an assistant, the former having been admitted into the conference on trial that spring, and the latter being a local preacher. Mr. Stanfield moved out into the western part of the county, and preached there. In March, 1869, the Westralia circuit was organized, embracing parts of Labette and Montgomery counties, and put in charge of Rev. J. S. Harryman and Rev. Sheldon Parker. In 1870 the Timber Hill circuit was formed, and put in charge of Rev. Sheldon Parker. It embraced all of the western part of Labette county and the eastern part of Montgomery. In 1871

Rev. R. P. Bukey was put in charge of this work and stayed two years. Rev. E. M. Bussett, a local preacher, about this time commenced to render efficient aid, which has been kept up much of the time since. During these early years (but I have found no one who is able to fix even the year) classes were formed at a number of school-houses in Osage and Mound Valley townships, several of which became permanent Methodist centers. Of these I may mention Mount Zion, in District No. 36; Mount Triumph, in District No. 63; St. John, in District No. 76; Harmony Grove, in District No. 30; Pleasant Hill, in District No. 77; and Maple Grove, in District No. 102. In April, 1873, Rev. J. P. Hight was placed on the Timber Hill circuit, and sent back the following year. In March, 1875, Rev. W. B. Poinsett was appointed, but on account of sickness failed to go, and the charge was united for that year with Labette, under Rev. J. W. McIntosh. The next two years Rev. W. B. Poinsett was in charge, at the end of which time the Timber Hill circuit ceased to exist, the most of the appointments being merged in

*The South Parsons Circuit.*—This circuit was formed in March, 1878, and put in charge of Rev. W. B. Poinsett and Rev. A. S. Freed. In March, 1879, this work was reduced in size and put in charge of Rev. S. F. Harriman, who formed some new classes, among them one at Mound Valley, and at the end of this year the charge ceased to exist under that name. From this time on the classes in the extreme western part of the county have generally been in charge of a minister at Cherryvale. In the spring of 1886 a parsonage was built in the Mount Zion district, and it became the head of the Cherryvale circuit. In 1892 this parsonage was sold, the proceeds to be applied to-

ward the erection of a new church in the near future.

*Mound Valley.*—The Methodist class at Mound Valley was organized in the summer of 1879, by Rev. S. F. Harriman, who was then in charge of the South Parsons circuit. About 10 members composed the class at the time of its organization. In March, 1880, the Mound Valley circuit was organized and put in charge of Rev. E. A. Graham, who continued on the work for three years. He in that time built three churches, doing a large part of the work with his own hands. The parsonage was built, and occupied in the fall of 1879 by Mr. Harriman. In the spring of 1880 a small church was completed on the southeast corner of block 15, and dedicated, free from debt, by Rev. A. T. Burris, at a cost of about \$1,200. In March, 1883, Mr. Graham was succeeded by Rev. Isaac Hill, who was followed the next spring by C. E. Creager; he remained two years. The first year of his pastorate the old church property was sold, and other lots secured in block 10, lying just south of the railroad track, and on these a fine new church was erected, and on Oct. 12, 1884, was dedicated by Rev. J. B. Ford. During the following winter union meetings were held, under the direction of W. H. Hurlbut, an evangelist, and resulted in a great revival. W. T. Freeland was appointed to the work in March, 1886, and stayed two years, during which time the old parsonage was sold, and a new one built by the side of the new church, and accepted July 6, 1887. In March, 1888, Rev. W. W. Curnutt was sent to the work, and died just at the close of his first year's services there. The next year Rev. J. B. Gibson came; and the next, Rev. W. T. York. The latter did the church a good service in raising the

money to pay off the indebtedness, which had been a great burden to it. In March, 1891, Rev. R. M. Cullison was put in charge of the work, and returned to it in March, 1892. Mr. Cullison continued to serve until March, 1894, when he was succeeded by J. R. McNabb, who served two years; the next two years F. H. Flickinger was pastor; in March, 1898, Mr. Flickinger was succeeded by E. W. Spencer, who served until September, 1899, when the present pastor, Angus M. Maclean, was sent to the work. An Epworth League was organized about November 1, 1891, with Rev. R. M. Cullison, president; Minnie Wallis, first vice-president; William Cruzan, second vice-president; Nellie O'Brien, third vice-president; Eva Sanders, secretary; and Edgar Simpson, treasurer.

*Bell Mound.*—A Methodist Episcopal class has been maintained at the school-house in District No. 99 for several years, and has usually been supplied with preaching by the ministers in charge of the Liberty work.

*Hopewell.*—In December, 1871, Rev. J. P. Hight, a local preacher, held a protracted meeting in the dwelling-house of James Beggs, which resulted in several conversions, and at its close, on January 5, 1872, a class was formed, which thereafter took the name of Hopewell. Meetings were held in private houses till the completion of the Henderson school-house, in District No. 83, in the fall of that year, where the meetings were thereafter held till the completion of their church. This class formed a part of the Timber Hill and South Parsons circuits, and was ministered to by the preachers in charge of those works, till the formation of the Mound Valley circuit, in the spring of 1880, when it was put into that circuit. Since then it has formed a part of either that or the Altamont circuit, most of

the time, however, with Mound Valley. In 1882, under charge of Rev. E. A. Graham, a neat church was built on the southeast corner of section 18, township 32, range 19. There were several other classes in the neighborhood, which now form a part of this church.

*Altamont.*—The town of Elston having been started in the summer of 1869, a Methodist class was formed there in the fall of that year, and admitted into the Oswego work in charge of Rev. P. McNutt, pastor. H. N. Brooks, a local preacher, and E. M. Bussart, an exhorter, were members of this class. At the conference in March, 1870, the Elston circuit was formed and put in charge of Rev. R. P. Bukey, who formed classes at a number of places in the central part of the county. At the end of one year this circuit was broken up and the work combined with other circuits. Classes were maintained most of the time in several school-houses in Labette and Mount Pleasant townships. This work preceded the organization of the class at Altamont when that town started. Prior to 1885 Altamont formed a part of the Mound Valley circuit. The class at this place was organized with 10 members, on June 19, 1881, in the Presbyterian church, by Rev. E. A. Graham, who on that occasion preached the first Methodist sermon in the place. In the fall of 1882 and spring of 1883, Mr. Graham built, largely with his own hands, the church, which, on July 15, 1883, was dedicated, by Rev. H. McBirney, free of debt, with the exception of a small loan obtained from the Church Extension Society. Rev. Isaac Hill, in 1883, and Rev. C. E. Creager, in 1884, being in charge of the Mound Valley circuit, also preached here. At the conference in March, 1885, the Altamont circuit was formed and placed in charge of Rev. H. R. Volmer; he was reappointed the

next year, but his health failed, and he resigned in December, 1886. In 1885 a parsonage was built, at a cost of about \$400. In January and February, 1886, a revival meeting resulted in the church receiving about 75 accessions to its membership. Rev. A. C. Bennett was appointed in 1887, Rev. W. H. McVeigh in 1888, and Rev. John P. Slaughter in 1889. The latter, desiring to go to school, resigned the work. In March, 1890, Rev. J. D. Skaggs was appointed to the circuit, and reappointed the following year. Rev. W. T. York began his pastorate in March, 1892; during his term, which ended March, 1894, an addition was made to the church at a cost of \$400. Rev. D. B. Brummitt succeeded him, and remained until the spring of 1895, when he was followed by H. A. Church, whose pastorate closed in March, 1900, at which time the present pastor, Rev. M. N. Ramsburg, was sent to the work. Connected with this work are appointments at several school-houses in the adjoining townships. An Epworth League was organized April 26, 1892, and has been quite a feature of the church work; at first under the leadership of the pastor, it has, more recently, enlisted able workers among the membership.

*Fairview.*—Two or three of the school-house appointments that had formed a part of the Altamont circuit united in 1898 in an effort to erect a church in the western part of Fairview township, a few miles southeast of Altamont. The church was completed in the spring of 1899, and was dedicated in July of that year by Rev. I. B. Pulliam. Its cost was about \$1,000. The organization and incorporation of the church was on September 27, 1898.

*Matthewson.*—A new church building was erected at this point and dedicated November 4, 1894. It has been one of the appointments

of the McCune circuit, and is served by pastors having charge of that work.

*Angola.*—A church at this point was incorporated in December, 1892, and work was commenced on the foundation for a new building. The church was completed in the spring of 1893 at a cost of about \$1,500, and dedicated June 11, 1893. It then formed a part of the Coffeyville circuit under the charge of Rev. William Betty. In 1894 the Angola circuit was formed with W. S. Bundy in charge. Subsequently different combinations of appointments were made. At present Angola forms a part of the Edna work.

*Elm Grove Circuit.*—In 1872 the southwest part of the county had settled to such an extent, and there was such a call for preaching and the organization of Methodist classes, that the presiding elder appointed Thomas Summerfield, a local preacher living in Elm Grove township, to supply these points with preaching. During this time a number of classes were formed. In March, 1873, the southwest part of the county was organized into a work called the Elm Grove circuit, and Rev. Thomas Moffat was appointed preacher in charge; the next year he was also sent as a supply on the same work. During his ministry there was an extensive revival. In 1875 Rev. George W. Rigby was sent to the work, and stayed two years. In March, 1877, Rev. J. M. Boon took charge of the work, and was returned again the next year, but got into trouble during the year and was suspended. He held protracted meetings at several points, which resulted in many conversions. In September, 1878, Rev. Z. B. Hitchcock had charge of the circuit, and was returned in the spring of 1879. At the next conference, in 1880, the name was changed to that of

*The Edna Circuit*, and Rev. C. W. Swartz

was put in charge. In March, 1881, Rev. Azor McDole was sent here, and continued to August, 1883, when he started to Evanston to school, and was succeeded by Rev. Salem Hedges, who stayed till March, 1885, at which time Rev. A. S. Freed was appointed, and stayed two years. The two years following, Rev. E. A. Grabeal was in charge. In March, 1889, Rev. Henry Carlyon was appointed, and the next spring Rev. L. N. B. Anderson. He remained but part of the year, and was succeeded by Rev. H. V. Spears, who was, in March, 1891, again sent to the work, and was followed by Rev. J. H. Hubbard, in March, 1892. Mr. Hubbard remained three years, and during his last year had a great revival, resulting in about 100 additions to the church. G. F. Bundy was put in charge of the work in March, 1895, and had a pastorate of three years. An excellent Epworth League under the presidency of Miss Gertrude Hileman, and also a fine Junior League, were maintained. The present pastor, G. E. Tift, was sent to Edna in March, 1898. In the fall of 1882 a building was begun, and inclosed so that services were held in it that winter. It was not completed until 1883, and was dedicated about November 1st by Rev. A. Cullison. During the last year of Mr. Bundy's pastorate a new church building was commenced, which was completed the following year, under Mr. Tift's pastorate, at a cost of \$2,500, and was dedicated on Sept. 25, 1898, by Dr. W. H. Milburn, chaplain of the U. S. Senate. In 1900 the church sold the old parsonage and erected a fine new one in its place. Mollie Pearren and Anna Hoole have been Epworth League presidents, and Mrs. Long and Mrs. Tifts, superintendents of the Juniors.

*Valeda.*—Methodist classes had been organized and maintained for several years in

the "seventies" in a number of the school-houses in the southwestern part of the county, among them the Blackford school-house, District No. 6; in the Trenton school-house, District No. 67; and in the Snow Hill school-house, District No. 35; and perhaps in one or two more. A class was formed in the Dresser school-house, District No. 51, in 1878, and kept up there until the town of Valeda was started and the Congregational church moved there, in the fall of 1886. The class was then removed to Valeda, and the services held in the Congregational church. All the classes that had been held in that vicinity were now united in this one appointment. This class belongs to the Edna work, and a list of the pastors will be found given under that church.

*Cecil.*—In the summer of 1882 Rev. A. P. George, then in charge of the Methodist church at Chetopa, commenced preaching at the Liggett school-house, in District No. 87, and soon formed a Methodist class. Arrangements were made with J. L. Jones to secure ground on the northwest corner of section 5, township 35, Hackberry township, for a church and cemetery. On October 11, 1882, the ground was formally accepted. On November 18, 1882, the corner-stone was laid, the address being made by Nelson Case. The work on the building, which was of stone, was pushed as rapidly as those interested could get the material upon the ground, so that by April 24, 1883, it was inclosed, and on that day Mr. George preached the first sermon within its walls. At the conference in March, 1883, the Cecil work was formed, and placed in charge of Rev. H. R. Volmer, who was reappointed to the charge in 1884. On May 13, 1883, just after the services had closed and the people had reached home, a cyclone came up from the southwest and blew the church to atoms. The



roof was carried about half a mile, the organ and table were crushed to splinters; the Bible lay upon a box which had been used for a pulpit, and after the storm was found just as it had been left, entirely unharmed. Steps were at once taken to rebuild; this time, however, a frame instead of a stone building. On August 19, 1883, the first sermon was preached in this new structure, by the pastor. It was dedicated (about September 1, 1883) by Rev. A. Cullison. On July 2, 1884, another storm passed over that section; the church was struck by lightning, and also torn to atoms by the wind. Some money was realized from insurance, and the brethren for a third time started to erect a church edifice. It was commenced in October, 1884, and finished during the winter, and on Feb. 22, 1885, was dedicated by the presiding elder, Rev. A. Cullison. At the conference the following month Rev. J. B. Seiss was appointed to succeed Mr. Volmer on this work. Since then this point has formed a part of the Edna circuit, and has been supplied with preaching from the ministers in charge, a list of whom will be found in connection with that work.

*Bartlett.*—The class at this place, while one of the newest in the county, may still, not inappropriately, be said to be one of the oldest. In the report of Rev. P. McNutt, pastor at Oswego, to the quarterly conference held at Oswego, May 15, 1869, I find the following: "On May 9th I organized another [class] at Hackberry." "I have been on Hackberry but once; found a very intelligent, wide-awake people there. I organized a class of 10, with Bro. William Payne as leader, and have great hopes of soon seeing a flourishing society there." I learn that this class was organized at the house of Mr. Horace Horton, on the southeast quarter of section 27, in Hackberry

township. Among the 10 members who were taken into the class at its organization were Wm. H. Payne and wife Louisa, Samuel McMillen and wife Margaret, Thomas F. Weaver, George W. Jenkins. Mr. McNutt preached frequently during the year, and Thomas Summerfield, a local preacher, also preached for them more or less during the next year or two. Preaching, prayer meetings and class meetings were held in a number of houses in the neighborhood—at the home of H. D. Knight, on section 33, as much, perhaps, as at any place. This class became a part of the Elm Grove circuit when it was organized. The class met for a time at the Lockard school-house, in District No. 28, and then at the Bishop school-house, in District No. 7. Preaching and class services were maintained at both of these places, sometimes at one and sometimes at the other, with a good degree of regularity, until the spring or summer of 1888, when regular services were abandoned at these points and the class was removed to Bartlett, where services were held in the school-house, and Edith Dorland was appointed class-leader. September 1, 1892, work began on a new church building, which was completed during the summer of 1893, and was dedicated October 29, 1893. The cost of this edifice was about \$1,600. At this time Bartlett was a part of the Edna circuit. In March, 1894, the Bartlett circuit was formed, and E. H. Spencer placed in charge. After serving one year, he was followed by M. D. Stout, who staid three years. M. L. K. Morgan came to the work in March, 1898, but resigned in the middle of the year, and was succeeded by B. F. Ross, who filled out that year and came back the next. In March, 1900, William Milliken was appointed to the work.

*Parsons.*—First Methodist Episcopal church of Parsons: Methodism in Parsons does not



know the date of its birth. The first religious services on the present site of Parsons were held in the summer of 1870, in Abraham Cary's log house on the northwest quarter of section 18, by A. W. King, a local preacher from Osage township. Mr. King continued to preach there every two or three weeks during the summer and fall. The town having been started in November, a number of buildings were on the ground by December. Among these was a two-story frame standing on lot 32, block 25, next to the southeast corner of the block, the lower part of which was occupied by Charles Hazard with a saloon. In the room over this saloon, on the evening of Dec. 15, 1870, Mr. King preached the first Methodist sermon that was delivered in the town of Parsons; it was also the first sermon preached in Parsons by any minister. In March, 1871, Rev. G. W. Pye was appointed to the New Chicago (now Chanute) work, with the understanding that he should also visit Parsons and preach occasionally. During the spring he visited Parsons, preached, organized a class, and commenced the first regular Methodist work done at this point. During the year he came about every two weeks. Services were first held in what was known as Hewes' Hall, on Forest avenue. During the spring Cary's Hall, on the northwest corner of block 42, where the opera house now stands, was built, and the upper story seated by the Methodists and Presbyterians, in which to hold services. In this room, in the month of May, 1871, the Methodist class was organized. Adam Gebert was the first to give his name and his hand to the pastor, Rev. G. W. Pye, and Abraham Cary was the second. At the conference in March, 1872, Rev. J. W. Fox was sent to the Parsons circuit, which included, besides Parsons, Montana, Spring Valley and

Labette City appointments. His salary was estimated at \$800, and he was paid about \$600. At the first quarterly conference, on April 6, 1872, a building committee was appointed; which committee, on April 27th, adopted plans and specifications for a church building, and at once advertised for bids. On May 8th the bids were opened, and the contract awarded at \$4,753. But, owing to the pressing needs of the settlers and the financial distress generally prevailing, a meeting of the committee was held on June 10th, and it was decided to indefinitely postpone the project of building. In the fall of 1872 a small building denominated a "tabernacle" was erected on the site of the present church, at a cost of about \$700. These lots were donated to the church by the ~~town~~ company. The tabernacle was dedicated Nov. 3, 1872, by Rev. H. D. Fisher. In this building the church services were conducted until the fall of 1876, when it was sold to the United Brethren and removed from the lots on which it was built. In March, 1873, Rev. C. R. Rice was sent to the work, and early in the year built a small parsonage in block 47, at a cost of about \$300. Services were held quite irregularly, on account of the inability of the church to support the pastor, and in December he removed his family to Emporia and supported them with his own labors, having received less than \$200 from the church during the year. Notwithstanding all this, Mr. Rice did some very efficient work. Rev. Peter De-Clark was the next pastor. He arrived from the East in April, 1874. Small-pox, grasshoppers and hard times were too much for him, and in July he resigned the work. He was followed in November by Rev. Boyd Lowe, who was returned to the work in 1875, and for his services received all that was promised, viz., \$500—the first experience of the kind

the church had had. In 1876 Rev. J. F. Boone was in charge of the work, and in March, 1877, Rev. C. A. King came, and remained three years. The tabernacle having been sold the previous fall, services had to be held in halls, vacant store-rooms and such places as could be secured. This made the church see the importance of building a house, and the pastor proceeded at once to take steps for its accomplishment. On Nov. 5, 1877, the corner-stone of the present church edifice, on the southeast corner of block 42, was laid by the Masons. The foundation was completed, and covered during the winter, and work resumed in the spring. In the fall of 1878 the church was inclosed, and opened for services by Bishop Bowman. An extensive revival followed. In March, 1880, Rev. M. H. Wilson was appointed to the work. His ways were not congenial to the membership, and after six months' trial he was allowed to depart, and was followed for the balance of the year by Rev. C. E. McClintock. In 1881 Rev. G. W. Pye was returned to the work, and in March, 1882, Rev. H. W. Chaffee came. The church and pastor were mutually satisfied with each other, and he remained till 1885, when, under the limitation, a change was required. During his pastorate the church, which since its erection had been occupied in an unfurnished condition, was completed and furnished, and on Feb. 22, 1885, dedicated by Rev. E. C. Boaz. In March, 1885, Rev. H. A. Tucker became pastor, and continued as such for three years. The following three years, commencing with March, 1888, Rev. J. E. Brant was pastor. Rev. R. P. Hammons was appointed to the charge in March, 1891, and continued two years, being succeeded in March, 1893, by Rev. John H. Price, who remained three years,

being followed by Rev. Hugh McBirney, who staid until the conference of 1901. During the last year of Mr. Hammons' pastorate, the church was enlarged and improved at a cost of about \$4,500. The debt against the church, amounting to \$2,000, was paid under Mr. McBirney's administration, and, in addition to this, some \$1,500 was expended in enlarging the grounds and in improving the property. The membership of the church is about 500. In the fall of 1881 the young people of the church organized the Aftermath Society, and elected as its officers Mrs. Frank Curtis, president; Bell Letton, secretary; and Thomas Clark, treasurer. Under its management the first young people's prayer meeting of the church was organized. It did much toward encouraging the social life of the church, and was also of material assistance in its financial management. This society was succeeded by the Adelpian Society, which was organized March 1, 1887, with W. J. Wirt, president; Miss Frankie Reed and Miss Bertha Kaysing, vice-presidents; Mertie Shannon, secretary; and Charles Nordyke, treasurer. This society did much toward helping in literary and normal work. In the spring of 1889 it reorganized as the Young People's M. E. Union, with Maggie Elliott, president; P. W. Blake, vice-president; Jennie Martin, secretary; and A. D. Lucas, treasurer. Haven Chapter of Epworth League was organized December 10, 1889, with Rev. J. E. Brant, president; T. R. Breese, Will J. Wirt, Miss Jennie S. Martin, J. T. Tendrum, vice-presidents; Maggie S. Elliott, secretary; John W. Sleigley, treasurer; and a membership of 17, which in three years increased to about 140. All departments of the work are well in hand, and it has been a great help in the general work of the church.

## THE SETTLERS' CONTEST FOR THEIR HOMES

---

The contest of the settlers on the Osage Ceded Lands to secure titles to their homes was one of the most heroic struggles that has ever been made. Considering the number of parties interested, the extent and value of the subject-matter of the contest, the apparently grossly disproportionate strength of the two contestants, the length of time to which the contest was protracted before a final decision was reached, one will scarcely find in the annals of history an instance where the devotion to the principle involved, the ability displayed in working up and managing the contest, the victory achieved, was as marked as was that of the settlers on the Osage Ceded Lands in contesting with the railroad companies the right to secure from the Government a title to their homes. At the outset everything seemed to be in favor of the railroad companies—at the close they had not as much as a solitary thread left to fling forth as a banner denoting their success in the fight. When the contest commenced, on the side of the corporations we find the Secretary of the Interior, standing as head of the Land Department of the General Government; coming to his aid a little later the Attorney General of the United States; through their decision, patent from the United States signed by President Grant, conveying the legal title to all these lands to the corporations; the open treasury of two powerful corporations,

by means of which they were enabled to command the best legal talent of the country, and whatever else they needed that could be procured by money; the prospect of securing 800,000 acres of land through the negotiation of the infamous Sturges treaty, by means of which it was hoped that unscrupulous legislators and Government officials could be corrupted to support the common cause of the several companies to secure from the General Government a recognition of the claims of each in these trust and ceded lands, to the robbery alike of the school fund and the actual settlers; almost the entire press of the country; and, what may possibly be regarded as one of their strongest supports, a very general local feeling that it was inexpedient to do anything that looked unfriendly to the railroads, the speedy construction of which into each community they especially desired, and the general favor of which they eagerly courted. As opposed to this there were several hundred settlers scattered over two counties 25 by 50 miles in extent, most of whom had scarcely enough means to furnish their homes with anything like the comforts of life and provide sufficient teams and tools to cultivate their farms. They had come here from nearly every State in the Union; had no acquaintance with each other; were unfamiliar with public business; were distrustful of themselves, and more so of those

in whose hands they were asked to place their interests; were slow to take the little means they had, all of which was needed to procure the actual necessities of life, and put it into a general fund to fee lawyers to prosecute a case which they heard on every hand was a hopeless one. With these surroundings and these prospects before the parties respectively, the settlers' contest opened. The corporations looked out upon a prospect full of sunlight and cheer; the settlers' vision was obscured by clouds, and mist, and apparently approaching disaster.

#### PRELIMINARY STEPS IN THE CONTEST.

In the negotiation of the treaty with the Osages, on Sept. 29, 1865, the settlers then on the lands, for the purchase of which provision was made in the treaty, felt sure of being able to purchase their lands at \$1.25 per acre. The news of the negotiation of the treaty was spread through the country, and largely on the strength of it settlers came upon these lands very rapidly. The failure to secure the ratification of the treaty for so long a time, and after its negotiation the further failure of Congress to make any provision for obtaining title, caused the settlers to become uneasy. Their rights on the land were much discussed among themselves during 1866 and 1867. It was not, however, until August, 1867, that any definite action was taken by them to induce legislation looking toward granting them relief. A few parties residing in Neosho county conceived the idea of making some demonstration, and got together as many of the settlers as they could at Canville trading-post, in August, 1867. At this meeting it was decided to petition Congress to pass a bill to secure the rights of settlers, and to allow them to purchase their lands.

A committee consisting of J. M. Bemis, T. C. Cory, D. T. Mitchell and John Johnson was appointed to prepare a petition, get signatures thereto, and forward to Congress. Immediately upon the adjournment of the meeting, the committee prepared the petition, and, deeming it unnecessary to travel all over the country to secure the signatures of men who were known to be in favor of what they were asking, the committee took the liberty to attach to it the names of all the settlers on these lands, so far as they were known or could be ascertained. Most of the night having been spent in that work, they had by morning a petition of quite considerable length, which was at once forwarded to Congressman George W. Julian, of Indiana, who was a personal friend of Colonel Mitchell, of the committee. Subsequently other meetings were held, and it was decided to send delegates to Washington to influence Congressional action in behalf of the settlers. Some money was raised, and Hon. Solomon Markham was sent to represent the settlers' interest. In the spring and early summer of 1868, a newspaper having been established in each of the two counties, the settlers' cause began to be discussed through the press. In the summer of 1868 conventions were held in Labette and Neosho counties, at which delegates were elected to a joint convention to be held at Fort Roach, or Ladore, on September 14th. This meeting organized by electing Joseph McCormick, of Labette county, chairman, and J. H. Scott, secretary. Owing to a misunderstanding as to the time of meeting, it was voted to adjourn to the 26th inst. On the day last named the meeting was held, with a full attendance from both counties. In the meantime steps had been taken to secure funds to carry on the work, and reports of success were made at this meeting. It was decided to

again send a delegate to Washington, and Judge Solomon Markham, who had represented them at the previous session, was again selected as their agent. This selection was not entirely satisfactory to all of the settlers, and especially to those in Labette county, and a convention was held at Oswego, December 26th, at which Col. Willoughby Doudna was selected as the special agent of the settlers of this county to go to Washington. Both Judge Markham and Col. Doudna spent the winter in Washington, and helped to secure the passage of the law giving the settlers the right to purchase their homes.

The treaty provided that those who were already upon the land should have a right to purchase a quarter-section at \$1.25 an acre. Under this provision it is said that 143 settlers in the two counties took title to their homes. All of those who went on the land subsequent to Sept. 29, 1865, were dependent upon future litigation for their rights to secure title. The settlers' efforts were first directed to securing the attention of Congress, but their most serious contest was in procuring a construction of the law by the courts in opposition to the construction that had been placed upon it by the Land Department of the General Government.

#### SETTLERS' MEETINGS.

A notable feature of the contest carried on by the settlers was the immense meetings which they held in various parts of the two counties for the purpose of awakening an interest and creating enthusiasm in the members. The first of these meetings, which may be called their great one, was held at Jacksonville, on July 28th and 29th, 1869. This meeting was really called in the interest of the settlers on

the Cherokee Neutral Lands to protest against the Joy purchase and in favor of the rights of the settlers on those lands to purchase them from the Government; but it was attended as largely by the citizens on the Osage Ceded Lands as by those on the Joy lands, and was turned into a meeting in the interest of both. The Oswego brass band was present and furnished the music. Congressman Sidney Clarke and John Speer made a trip from Lawrence in a lumber wagon, taking in Major H. C. Whitney at Humboldt; they were of course doing a great deal of political work as well as looking after the settlers' interests; all of them made speeches. Fully 3,000 people from the four counties were present, and were electrified as only such a crowd can be when their homes are in peril and measures for their security are being discussed. Two sets of resolutions were adopted: one by the settlers on the Joy lands, and another by the settlers on the Osage Ceded Lands. At night Senator Pomeroy was hung in effigy, and his actions, which were believed to be inimical to the settlers' interests, were severely denounced.

From this time on, the cause of the settlers on the Osage Ceded Lands had a popularity which it had not before that enjoyed. Another meeting was called, to be held at Jacksonville, on Sept. 15, 1869. This was very much less satisfactory in its results; but seven persons were present; one of these was Major Whitney. The report of this meeting which went out did not give the numbers attending, and it had in the eye of the public an air of respectability. Nothing was accomplished excepting the call for a series of meetings to be held the first two weeks in October, throughout Neosho and Labette counties, and the appointment of a committee, consisting of H. C. Whitney, T. C. Cory, and J. S. Waters, to pre-



pare an address to be published not later than October 1st. If any of the meetings provided for at this time were held they were but small affairs, and made little impression. The next great meeting of the settlers was at Ladore on July 4, 1870. J. F. Bellamy, H. C. Whitney and John Speer made speeches. On the following day the settlers formed their protective association. On Sept. 26, 1870, in compliance with an appointment made by the association on August 26th, a convention of the settlers was held at Prairie du Chien for the purpose of nominating a senator for the Sixteenth senatorial district. Major H. C. Whitney was unanimously nominated for the position. Provision was at the same time made for holding meetings at Ladore on Sept. 6th, at Jacksonville on the 9th, and at Erie on the 10th. At the Ladore meeting, after addresses by Major Whitney and Judge Markham, the following platform was adopted:

"Whereas, We, the settlers on the Osage Ceded Lands, in the State of Kansas, believe that under the treaty by which the said lands were ceded to the United States, and under the joint resolutions of Congress, April 10, 1869, actual settlers were entitled to purchase any part of said lands in tracts not to exceed 160 acres, at \$1.25 per acre, and that no corporation has acquired any vested rights therein; and whereas, certain railroad corporations are claiming certain portions of said lands; now, therefore,

"Resolved, 1. That we will proceed at once to test the validity of said claims, by instituting legal proceedings in the proper courts.

"2. That we respectfully request the Governor of our State to withhold all patents from said corporations for said lands until the termination of said proceedings.

"3. That we will support no candidate for

county and legislative offices who is not thoroughly identified with the settlers and in sympathy with their cause."

At the Erie meeting G. W. McMillen was chairman, and M. H. Sheldon, secretary; and in addition to hearing speeches, nominations were made for nearly a full set of officers for Neosho county.

On May 1, 1871, a meeting was held at Oswego, at which Hon. William Lawrence spoke and gave an exhaustive legal discussion of the settlers' rights. On July 12, 1873, the largest meeting which had ever then been held by the settlers was had at Thayer. There were 765 wagons filled with people in the procession, and a vast number on horseback. It was estimated that from 8,000 to 10,000 persons were in attendance. Speeches were made by Gov. Shannon, Congressman Clarke, Judge McComas, Milton W. Reynolds, W. L. Simons, and others. This was followed on October 1st by another immense meeting at Osage Mission, at which Gov. Osborn, Sidney Clarke, Stephen A. Cobb, D. R. Anthony, M. J. Salter, Judge McComas and J. H. Crichton spoke. On May 27, 1874, another great gathering was had, at Parsons. M. J. Salter was chairman, and F. B. McGill, secretary. Gov. Osborn, George R. Peck, Sidney Clarke and Judge McComas spoke. Besides these great meetings which I have named, during these years innumerable local meetings were held, some of them of scarcely less importance than those named. Their effect was to keep the settlers' interest at fever heat, and to cause them to demand of their officials the exertion of every effort in their power to secure their rights.

#### BASIS FOR THEIR CLAIMS.

The claim of the two parties, in brief, was this: These lands were reserved to the Osage



Indians by the treaty proclaimed June 2, 1825, soon after the conclusion of which the Indians moved upon and occupied them up to 1869. On March 3, 1863, an act of Congress was approved, granting land to the State of Kansas to aid in the construction of certain railroads, and among them the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston. On July 26, 1866, another land grant was made to the State of Kansas, to aid, among other roads, the building of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas. By virtue of their grants these two companies claimed alternate sections ten miles wide on each side of their respective lines of road, as finally located, through the Osage Ceded Lands.

On Sept. 29, 1865, a treaty was concluded between the United States and the Osage Indians, whereby the latter sold to the United States all the land comprising Neosho and Labette counties, to be by the Government "surveyed and sold under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior on the most advantageous terms for cash, as public lands are surveyed and sold under existing laws."

On June 26, 1866, the Senate amended this treaty by adding to the above provision the following: "Including an act granting lands to the said State of Kansas in aid of the construction of a railroad through said lands." This amendment was accepted by the Indians on Sept. 21, 1866, and the treaty as amended was proclaimed by the President on Jan. 21, 1867. It was claimed that the above Senate amendment to the treaty recognized the grant already made, if it did not in itself amount to a grant to the railroad companies.

On behalf of the settlers it was contended that the Congressional grants in aid of the construction of railroads were grants *in praesenti*, and could not apply to these lands, because, by the treaty of 1825, they were "reserved lands."

It was further contended that the treaty contemplates the survey and sale of these lands to actual settlers at \$1.25 per acre.

The railroad companies applied to the Commissioner of the General Land Office for a withdrawal of the lands they claimed under their respective grants from market. The Commissioner, Hon. Joseph Wilson, refused their request on April 26, 1867, and on a renewal of the application again ruled against them on May 17, 1867. From this decision the companies appealed to the Secretary of the Interior. On November 8, 1867, the Secretary, Hon. O. H. Browning, made his decision reversing Commissioner Wilson, and awarding to the railroad companies all the land by them claimed under the grants. The line of the M. K. & T. Ry. was definitely made Jan. 7, 1868; and maps showing the definite location of the lines of the two roads having been filed with the Commissioner, an order was made on Jan. 21, 1868, withdrawing the lands from market, which was forwarded to the land office at Humboldt, where it was received on Feb. 4, 1868, from which time the rights of the companies as against the settlers dated. Those who had settled on these lands previous to the last-named date were allowed to enter the same after the passage of the joint resolution of April 10, 1869. All odd sections not then settled on, and all even sections falling within the indemnity limit not then settled on, were awarded to the railroad companies.

Early in January, 1868, Congressman Clarke introduced a joint resolution for the sale of these lands to actual settlers; and all during that year efforts were made by friends of the settlers to secure legislation in their interest, but without success. The Forty-first Congress assembled on March 4, 1869. On the 15th of that month Congressman Clarke

again introduced a joint resolution for the disposal of the Osage Ceded Lands, which passed the House on April 5th, the Senate on the 9th, and received the President's approval on April 10, 1869. The passage of this resolution was hailed with delight, and it was generally thought that it was so worded as to entitle settlers on any portion of the lands to enter the same at \$1.25 per acre. But when, on June 19, 1869, the Register and Receiver of the Land Office gave notice that filings would be received on and after July 20th, and proof of settlement and purchase-money on and after September 2, 1869, they further stated that, under instructions from the General Land Office, under date of June 3, 1869, the right of the railroad companies to these lands under the terms of the land grants would be respected. Consternation and indignation now prevailed among the settlers, and continued to increase in proportion as the repeated rulings of the Government officials, as they were called on from time to time to further construe the law, seemed to show a disposition to ignore the settlers' rights and to place their homes more firmly within the grasp of the railroads. In different ways the question was brought before the various officers connected with the land department of the Government from time to time, and efforts were made to secure a reversal of Secretary Browning's ruling, but all to no purpose. When brought before him, Secretary Cox sustained the ruling of his predecessor, and of course the Commissioner and the land office officers were bound by the decision of their superiors.

Finally, in 1871, the Settlers' Association having employed Judge Lawrence, it was hoped to get a final decision in their favor. On an appeal taken from the decision of the Humboldt land office the question of the rights of

the settlers and of the railroads was fully argued, first before Hon. William Drummond, Commissioner of the General Land Office, and then, on an appeal from his decision, before Hon. Columbus Delano, Secretary of the Interior, who called to his aid the Assistant Attorney General, Hon. W. H. Smith. The settlers' cause was argued by Hon. Wm. Lawrence, and the railroads' claims were presented by B. R. Curtis.

On January 26, 1872, Secretary Delano announced his decision, fully sustaining the railroad companies' claims, and in support of his conclusion said: "If I were in doubt about it, yet in view of the former decision of my predecessor, Secretary Browning, in favor of the validity of the grants, and the refusal of Secretary Cox to reverse that decision, and the action of the companies under it, I should hesitate long before I would disturb rights acquired under that decision." He also gave the lengthy opinion of Assistant Attorney General Smith concurring in the opinion he had reached. Following this decision, on February 19, 1872, President Grant issued a patent to the M. K. & T. Ry. Co. for so much of its land as it had then selected.

#### THE ATTITUDE OF THE PRESS.

The positions assumed by the local press toward the settlers' cause varied at different times during the struggle. Of course different papers assumed different positions, and the same papers sometimes changed sides—at one time advising resistance to the railroad companies' claim, and again counseling compliance. I can only give two or three extracts to show these varied sentiments, but anyone who has any desire to see the many changes that took place can be gratified by consulting the files of

the various papers of the two counties. On January 27, 1870, the *Osage Mission Journal* says: "We think it would be folly for the settlers to spend their time and money in trying to beat the railroads out of their lands at this late day." In its issue of February 7, 1872, the *Chetopa Advance*, after announcing the decision of the Secretary of the Interior in favor of the railroad companies, says: "While we could wish that the decision might have been different, we cannot say that we are disappointed in the result. Without claiming to comprehend the case fully in all its legal bearings, we have always held and expressed the opinion that the railroad title to the lands would be confirmed." And again, on February 21, 1872, in a leading editorial headed "Better Compromise," the same paper says: "In the contest between the railroad and the settlers on the Osage Ceded Lands, our readers will remember that we have never encouraged them in their efforts to contest the title with the railroads. We appeal to the settlers and to the railroads to let us have peace. The former cannot afford to spend any more money in futile litigation. Whatever they so spend will be taxed back upon them when the title is finally confirmed, with interest to boot." In announcing the decision of the Secretary of the Interior the *Parsons Sun* in its issue of February 3, 1872, says: "We are well aware that the above news will fall like a thunder-clap on many of the settlers whose expectations have been recently raised to the utmost by the favorable reports and opinions from Judge Lawrence; but we have endeavored to prepare them, from time to time, to expect the worst, and we now hope that the majority will bow to the decision of the Secretary of the Interior

and immediately make the most favorable terms possible with the railroad companies."

Most of the papers in both counties, even those most entirely devoted to the settlers' cause, were somewhat wavering at times in their support. In justification of their course, the papers which counseled surrender to the railroad companies and compromise with them, pointed out the delay and expense attending litigation even in the event of final success, and the damage that would necessarily result, not only to the contestants, but to all the settlers alike, in retarding immigration, preventing improvement, and embittering the feeling by a contest in the courts. So far as the metropolitan press had discussed the matter at all, it had been, as the settlers believed, from the standpoint of the railroad companies' position. To counteract such influence, and to give the public an understanding of their position, the Grand Council appointed a committee, of which T. P. Leech was one of the members (the other names I have not been able to get), to prepare an address to the public setting forth the settlers' cause, together with their determination to obtain a decision in the highest court of the country upon its merits, with a willingness on their part to abide by such judgment. They caused this address to be published in leading papers in Eastern cities, and thereby brought their cause into more prominence than it had hitherto attained.

#### SETTLERS' PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

Most of the settlers who attended the great meeting at Ladore on July 4, 1870, remained over until the 5th, when another meeting was held, to more practically discuss the rights and

prospects of the settlers. Major H. C. Whitney and John Speer, who had been the principal orators of the day previous, made speeches. Major Whitney more particularly discussed the legal aspect of the matter, and advised united action on the part of the settlers. At the conclusion of the address the following was unanimously adopted by the settlers:

*"Whereas*, By a treaty with the Osages, proclaimed in January, 1867, it was provided that the lands since known as the Osage Ceded Lands should be sold for cash, which treaty the Commissioner of the General Land Office authoritatively decided did not vest any title to lands therein in land monopolies; and whereas, a joint resolution of April 10, 1869, provided for the sale of all said lands to actual settlers at \$1.25 per acre; and whereas, said treaty and decision of the Commissioner of the General Land Office and joint resolutions have been set at naught by a mere arbitrary ruling of a late secretary, made upon an *ex parte* application of the land monopolies, and based upon a mistaken precedent; and whereas, our right to our homes and our all is menaced by said monopolies; now, therefore, be it

*"Resolved*, That we will contest for our titles under the joint resolution aforesaid to the extreme limit of the law; and to secure this end we will organize thoroughly and with discipline so as to bring the entire material and moral force of the whole array of settlers to bear throughout the whole contest.

*"Resolved*, That the settlers are hereby solemnly warned not to squander their means in the attempted purchase of an illegal and void monopoly title to their homes, which title must sooner or later be overthrown; but they each and all are earnestly entreated to join the settlers' organization and obtain a title direct from

the General Government, which shall be cheap, staunch, and unmistakable.

*"Resolved*, That we hereby appoint the following temporary executive committee, viz.: Col. W. H. Carpenter, George T. Walton, Wm. S. Irwin, Lewis A. Reese, Van Henderletter, Peter Collins, M. H. Sheldon, A. S. Spaulding, and J. M. Richardson; and they are hereby requested to form and promulgate to the settlers for their consideration, a plan of permanent executive committee; to adopt such measures as may be essential to promote the interests of the settlers; and that said executive committee is requested to prepare an address to the settlers, and to publish the same immediately.

*"Resolved*, That the settlers are hereby requested immediately to assemble in neighborhood meetings, each neighborhood to select a good and true man competent to serve as a member of the permanent executive committee. The executive committee are requested to select from said list nine members, in such manner as that all localities on the Ceded Lands shall be represented, and said selections shall be the permanent executive committee for one year from the date of organization.

*"Resolved*, That from this time henceforth we mean business, and upon our efforts to save our homes we invoke the just consideration of all true men and the gracious favor of Almighty God."

The committee appointed by the foregoing resolutions at once took steps to perfect the organization, and W. S. Irwin was elected its president. On October 15, 1870, a charter for the purpose of incorporating the "Settlers' Protective Association of the Osage Ceded Lands" was prepared, and signed by William Irwin, David C. Hutchinson, George W. McMillen, J. M. Richardson, and others, which was filed

in the office of the Secretary of State October 1, 1870. The charter states the object of the corporation as follows: "The purpose for which this corporation is formed is the promotion of immigration to said lands, and the legal investigation and proper adjustment of the title thereto." In the fall of 1870 subordinate councils were organized in nearly every part of the two counties.

The first regular meeting of the Grand Council after its formal organization was held at the town of Labette, on December 17, 1870. At this meeting the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, J. J. Woods; secretary, Samuel R. Luke; executive committee, D. C. Hutchinson, G. W. McMillen, J. J. Woods, A. J. Campbell, J. B. Swart, J. C. Bundy, J. M. Gaston, M. H. Sheldon, James Martin. D. C. Hutchinson and G. W. McMillen were appointed financial agents, and directed to canvass both counties for funds. Early in January, 1871, the executive committee published a long and carefully prepared address to the settlers, setting forth the necessity for their standing together and contributing of their means to a common fund in order to reach an end by all alike desired; it set forth that Major Whitney had been employed as attorney to conduct a contested case through the court, and that the case of J. M. Richardson against the railroad company had been instituted for the purpose of contesting the question of title.

The association proceeded to spread itself over the two counties, and to do much good work in the shape of enlisting the settlers in the united action for their homes. As the work progressed it became evident that a knowledge of their action on the part of the public interfered with the accomplishment of their plans, and so it was decided to form a secret organiza-

tion retaining the main features of the old association, but adding to it a secret obligation and some ritualistic work. Of the introduction of this feature into the association, I will let those speak who were connected with it. Hon. T. P. Leech, of Thayer, writes me as follows:

"My individual experience and knowledge of the facts connected with the Osage Ceded Lands contest involved in the history and transactions of the Settlers' Protective Association began in 1871, when William Dick (well known and recognized all over the Ceded Lands as 'Father Dick') organized a subordinate council of the S. P. A. of O. C. L., in the school-house near my place. He informed us that there had been a number of old settlers' meetings held at different places on the Ceded Lands in the past, for the purpose of organizing a legal contest with the railroad companies to test the validity of their claim to these lands, but that the work had been openly and voluntarily done, and only a portion of the old settlers had taken interest in the matter; and that at a meeting held at Ladore—earlier known as Fort Roach—it had been decided to regularly organize (as a secret organization) the Osage Ceded Land Settlers' Protective Association, and enlist, if possible, all those whose homes were involved in the controversy, and all others who were in sympathy with them. Many subordinate councils had been formed before our neighborhood had been reached, and the work of organization was going on rapidly. And so Father Dick read to us the printed declaration of purposes, the constitution and by-laws that were to govern the association; and as it was clearly set forth that the purpose was to secure concerted action in making the strongest possible legal contest for our rights, I cast my lot with my neighbors (although my individual home was not in controversy, and



neither was Father Dick's), and I shall probably never forget the concluding paragraph of the obligation given us by Father Dick in his most impressive manner, and which was repeated by all the candidates, as follows:

"All of this I most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear that I will keep and perform, without any equivocation or mental reservation whatever; binding myself under no less a penalty than that of having a rope looped round my neck and I be swung in the air till life become extinct. So help me God, and keep me steadfast."

The following letter will give further information on this same subject:

"PARSONS, KANS., Sept. 1, 1892.

"Hon. Nelson Case, Oswego, Kas.—DEAR SIR: In response to your request for the facts relative to the secret organization of the Settlers' Protective Association, I submit the following, which is of course but a brief statement of what might be indefinitely enlarged:

"The open organization, which had been in existence some time, proved very unsatisfactory in its working, and a few of us became satisfied that our purposes could only be accomplished through a secret organization. It was feared that some parties, such as the Catholics, Dunkards, Quakers, and United Brethren, would not go into a secret organization; but others argued that for the purposes contemplated all these parties could be expected to unite. The first actual steps taken toward forming the secret organization were at my house, about the first of October, 1871. My father, William Dick, and I had been to a meeting at the Catalpa school-house, in Neosho county, the proceedings of which convinced us that something must be done to bring matters more completely under the control of those really in earnest in the settlers' interest. We

counseled with T. B. Smith and D. D. Lindsey, and all met at my house. We were all members of the Masonic order, and agreed to organize a Secret Settlers' Protective Association. I was to draw the constitution and by-laws, and father was to prepare the oath, and we were to meet at my house the next evening to initiate the work. We four met there as agreed; the constitution, by-laws and oath were laid on a small table, the four surrounding it with our left hands on the instruments and our right hands raised; father recited the oath, the others repeating it over after him. And then Mr. Lindsey recited the oath to father, and he repeated it after him. During the whole history of the organization the oath remained the same as it was then written and used, and was never by authority put in print. Before parting it was agreed that each person present should select one person whom he could trust, and bring with him the following evening to father's house. The four selected were W. A. Starr, Wm. Findley, J. B. Swart and James McMains. At the time appointed the eight met, and the four new members were initiated in the same manner as the first had been. It was again agreed that each one present should select one and bring with him the following night at the same place; these eight were initiated. This meeting lasted until nearly morning; the general work was mapped out, its difficulties and dangers discussed, and what was hoped to be accomplished was talked over. Before starting away it was arranged to hold the next meeting at Carpenter's school-house, in District No. 30, and that each party present should select two persons to bring with him at that meeting. The next meeting was to be held a week later, each one present to bring an additional person with him. When we came together, in addition to the forty-eight new



members who were to be selected by those who had already been initiated, there were four who came along, having learned that something was to be done, and who were received along with the others, making just one hundred present at this meeting. It was now determined to form a permanent organization, and elect officers. The following were elected: Chief counselor, William Dick; vice-counselor, J. B. Swart; secretary, J. H. McGheehen; treasurer, Jas. McMains. By the first of November the organization had grown so unwieldy that it was determined to form auxiliary councils. The first one was organized in the southeast corner of Wilson county; another soon after, at what was then called the McCormick school-house, in District No. 19, in Labette county; another one at the Shiloh school-house, in Neosho county; and others later at other points. Parties came for a distance of 20 miles to be initiated and learn the particulars of the organization. Dr. G. W. McMillen, of Neosho county, having been initiated, was, with Father Dick, appointed to organize new councils. About the first of January, 1872, delegates from all the secret councils met at Hughes' hall, in Parsons, and organized a grand council. The following officers were elected: Grand chief counselor, Dr. G. W. McMillen; grand vice-counselor, J. B. Swart; grand chief secretary, M. H. Sheldon; grand chief treasurer, William Dick. An executive committee of five was also elected. The work thus organized went on until the cause for which it was formed had completely triumphed.

"Yours truly, L. F. DICK."

At the close of 1872 Hon. M. J. Salter, of Thayer, was elected Grand Chief Counselor, which position he held most if not all the time until the final decision of the Supreme Court, and until the close of the work of the associa-

tion. Mr. Sheldon likewise remained Grand Secretary and William Dick Grand Treasurer during the entire time. Among those who were on the executive committee and did good work were T. P. Leech, J. B. Swart and G. W. McMillen. To mention all who were prominently connected with it would be to extend this account to a greater length than could be given in this work. The executive committee held monthly meetings, and sometimes met more frequently, and the Grand Council met as often as once a year, and it was sometimes called together on special occasions. Unflinching interest was maintained until the accomplishment of the purpose for which the association was organized.

#### CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The constitution of the association and the rules by which it was governed were somewhat of a growth. The following were the main provisions as finally adopted and as they were in use for several years:

"PREAMBLE OF THE S. P. A.—In consequence of an adverse claim to the settlers upon the Osage Ceded Lands, held by the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston Railroad Company, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company; and as it is generally believed that this claim cannot be established by law, as it is based upon fraud and misinterpretation of the treaty and the act of Congress, and in conflict with the policy of the Government. This claim being wrong, and injurious to the settlers upon these lands, who came here by the invitation of the Government and by the solicitation of the press of the State, setting forth the fact that the lands were opened for settlement by the Government, for the industrious citizens of the United States, and upon this representation and in good faith the people have settled upon these lands, and by toil and privation have made valuable improvements and homes for the support of their wives and little ones. When these lands became valuable by the improvements placed upon them by the industry and intelligence of the settlers, these companies did set

up their claim, and have attempted to dispose of by sale, these lands together with the improvements, compelling in some cases the settler to purchase his own labor to prevent so great and sad a calamity as that of having his family driven beggars from the home they had by toil and privation made:

"Now in view of all these wrongs, and many others not herein mentioned, we, the settlers upon the Osage Ceded Lands in Kansas, do organize ourselves into a select organization to be known as the S. B. of the S. P. A., for the purpose of protecting ourselves and to test these claims of these railway companies in the highest courts of our country.

"We therefore enter into the foregoing agreement, and pledge our honor to stand to and abide by the following constitution, rules and by-laws of the association:

"ARTICLE I.—*Title*.—This organization shall be known by the name, style and title of the Secret Brotherhood of the Settlers' Protective Association of the Osage Ceded Lands in Kansas, and the initials S. B. S. P. A. O. C. L. shall represent the name of the organization.

"ARTICLE II.—*Objects*.—The objects to be accomplished by this organization are as follows:

"1st. To strengthen, harmonize and preserve the feelings of the settlers upon the Osage Ceded Lands.

"2d. To make these feelings efficient in litigating and contesting our rights as actual settlers in legal tribunals of our country.

"3d. For the protection and assistance of all such settlers whose rights are invaded by monopolies and corporations.

"4th. To establish and secure the rights of the settlers on the Osage Ceded Lands by all legal, moral, social means in control.

"5th. To extend the hand of charity and brotherly love to all the honest and industrious laboring classes, and to assist them by our counsel and honest means in securing honesty in our Government, integrity in our people, and placing the honest labor of our country on a more equal footing, mentally, morally and socially.

"6th. To resist all encroachments of monopoly and pampered aristocracy, when and wherever found, to demand that honest labor shall be respected and protected all over the United States.

"ARTICLE III.—*Organization*.—The several constituted bodies of this association shall consist of—

"1st. District organizations, to be known as the S. P. A. Council No.—, of — County, of the State of Kansas.

"2nd. The general organization to be known as the Grand Council of the S. B. S. P. A. of the O. C. L. in K. N. A., page 5."

[Provision was made by Article IV for settlers and those sympathizing with them to become members of the

association. Article V provided for the election of members, and Article VI for the impeachment of members.]

"ARTICLE VII.—*Officers*.—1st. The officers of each Council shall be a Chief Counselor, a Senior Vice-Counselor, a Junior Vice-Counselor, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Chief Marshal, a Junior Marshal, who shall be elected by the members semi-annually.

"2d. The officers of the Grand Council shall be a Grand Chief Counsellor, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Counselor, Grand Chief, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Marshal, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected by the members of the Grand Council semi-annually.

"3d. The members of the Grand Council shall consist of the representatives from each sub-council elected by the members of the subordinate Council to represent them in the Grand Council."

[Article VIII provided for the duties of the respective officers, and Article IX for the times of meeting.]

"ARTICLE X.—*Secrecy*.—1st. The proceedings of the Council shall be kept a secret.

"2d. Any member who shall divulge any of the secrets shall suffer the penalty of his obligation, or such punishment as the court in his wisdom shall direct."

[Article XI provided for the fees; Article XII for the collection of arrearages; Article XIII for reports; Article XIV for charters to subordinate Councils; Article XV for the election of officers; Article XVI for representation in the Grand Council; Article XVII for by-laws; and Article XVIII for amendments.]

## LEGAL MEASURES.

As soon as the settlers decided on contesting their rights in court they employed Major H. C. Whitney, of Humboldt, as their attorney. Under his advice a suit was brought in the District Court for Labette county, in the name of James M. Richardson against the M. K. & T. Ry. Co., in October, 1870, to obtain an adjudication of the rights of the settlers who had been refused entry at the land office to their lands. Some were not satisfied with Mr. Whitney's management of the settlers' matters, and in February, 1871, he withdrew as their attorney. Messrs. McComas & McKeighan, of Fort Scott, were then employed by the settlers. The suit first begun was dismissed because of some informality in its com-

mencement, or for some other reason, and a new suit by Richardson was instituted. A suit was also commenced in the name of James Wood. These suits were instituted for the purpose of quieting the title of the plaintiffs to their lands, and to determine that the claim of the railroads thereto was without foundation. In the case in which Wood was plaintiff, the district court held that, upon the facts as stated in his petition, he had no standing in court. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court, where the judgment of the district court was affirmed. It was soon apparent to all that the real question at issue between the settlers and the railroads could not be finally determined by these individual suits to quiet title, and plans were laid to secure action on the part of the United States in the federal courts. It was first believed that an act of Congress would be required to secure this result, and the Kansas Legislature memorialized Congress to pass a bill authorizing such action; but the matter having been brought to the attention of the executive department of the Government, the Attorney General expressed a willingness, on the application of the Senators from Kansas, to direct suit to be brought in the name of the United States without any action on the part of Congress. In addition to Messrs. McComas & McKeighan, the settlers had in their employ Gov. Shannon, Judge Wm. Lawrence, and Hon. J. S. Black. George R. Peck had recently been appointed U. S. District Attorney for Kansas, and through him, representing the Government, and the above-named attorneys representing the settlers' association, as his assistants, two suits were commenced on February 25, 1874, in the United States Circuit Court on the part of the United States, one against the M. K. & T. and one against the

L. L. & G., for the purpose of obtaining a decree canceling the patents theretofore issued to them by the General Government. In October following, the judgment of that court was announced, fully sustaining the settlers' claim, and directing the patents that had been issued to the railroads to be canceled. The companies at once took the case in error to the Supreme Court of the United States, where it was ably and fully argued on October 20, 21 and 22, 1875. On April 10, 1876, the judgment of that court was rendered, sustaining the decision of the Circuit Court, and finally and conclusively affirming the right of the settlers to these lands. Both of these decisions were hailed with great delight by the settlers, and immense ratification meetings were held all over the said lands in honor of the event. Not only to their paid attorneys, who so ably represented the settlers, but also to Hon. George R. Peck, who, throughout the contest in both the Circuit and Supreme Courts, brought to their aid his best talents, were the settlers largely indebted for the victory thus won.

#### FURTHER LEGISLATION.

As soon as the decision was announced, steps were at once taken to procure Congressional legislation whereby the settlers could obtain title, the time in which this could be done under the joint resolution of April 10, 1869, having long theretofore expired. A bill was prepared by Gov. Shannon, approved by the Grand Council, and rapidly pushed through Congress by Hon. John R. Goodin, who then represented this district in the House, and our Senators in the Senate; and it was on August 11, 1876, approved by the president.

## EXPENSES.

The expenses attending the contest in the courts were of course very great. Fees of the attorneys who were employed, two or three of whom had national reputation, were large, and many other expenses had to be borne. Nearly every settler on the Ceded Lands, whether he had or had not acquired title to his home, or whether the title was or was not involved and depended upon litigation then in progress, came to the aid of the cause by giving his note. Those whose title was not in contest gave a shorter form of note, but those whose land was in litigation gave notes which were generally in the following form:

## "AGREEMENT.

*"Know all Men by these Presents:* That whereas, the undersigned, ———, has settled upon and improved the ——— quarter of section —, town —, range —, situated in the county of ——— and State of Kansas, and claims the same under the preemption laws of the United States; and whereas, the ——— Railroad Company claim the same land, under and by virtue of the laws of the United States; and whereas, the said contending parties are about to make up test cases to submit to the judicial tribunals of the country, so as to procure a judicial determination of the question whether said land is or is not subject to preemption, or whether the said railroad company has any right there-to or not; and whereas, the undersigned, with others holding similar preemption rights, is desirous to secure the professional services of Hon. J. S. Black, of Pennsylvania, Hon. Wm. Lawrence, of Ohio, and Hon. Wilson Shannon, Sr., of Kansas, in the argument and man-

agement of said case and the legal questions involved therein: Now, therefore, I, ———, in consideration of said legal services, do obligate and bind myself to pay to the said J. S. Black, Wm. Lawrence, and Wilson Shannon, Sr., the sum of ——— dollars, so soon as the court of final resort shall determine that said railroad company is not entitled to said lands, and that the same are subject to preemption under the laws of the United States. The determination of any one case is to be considered as determining the legal questions as to all other lands similarly situated as to the legal questions involved in the case.

"Given under my hand, this — day of —, A. D. 1873.

"Attest: ——— [Seal.]"

In this way the main part of the money required to meet the expenses of the suit was raised; but in January, 1874, the Legislature passed an act appropriating \$2,500 on the part of the State to assist in this enterprise. The incidental expenses of the association were met by quarterly dues of 25 cents per member.

It is not improbable that many settlers spent as much in time and money in carrying on the contest as their homes would have cost them had they purchased them from the railroad companies; but taking the whole body of settlers the cost was comparatively small compared with what they would have had to pay for their title had they obtained it through the railroad companies. One thing that had a strong tendency to unite the settlers in making the contest was the exorbitant price put upon the lands by the companies when they were placed upon the market and offered for sale. Had the lands, as soon as the companies obtained their patents, been offered for sale at a fair price, it is not unlikely that so large a

proportion of the settlers would have purchased, that the others would have been without sufficient strength to successfully inaugurate and carry on the contest.

The settlers had a right to congratulate themselves over the result, not only because

it secured them individually great personal advantages, but not less because it was a vindication of a right principle, and showed that a body of men, though poor, when banded together and determined may secure their rights even against great odds.









Chas. Bush

# Representative Citizens

---



WILLIAM BUSBY, an extensive coal operator, and mayor of the city of Parsons, whose portrait is herewith shown, is one of the best known citizens of Labette county, Kansas. The life of this gentleman stands out as a shining example of what may be accomplished by industry. Granted only a limited education, he was thrown upon his own resources at an early age, and the success which has attended his efforts is the result of persevering diligence and keen foresight. Taking advantage of opportunities as they presented themselves, he steadily increased his operations until they assumed vast proportions. He now employs about 600 men, and his daily pay-roll is about \$1,500. He has been identified with many of the most worthy enterprises instituted for the good of the city, and as executive of the city of Parsons is as successful as in the management of his private affairs. He was born near Trenton, New Jersey, September 5, 1854, and is a son of George and Margaret (Lunney) Busby.

George Busby was born in England, came to America at the age of twenty-three years, and settled in the vicinity of Trenton, New Jersey. He at once engaged in agricultural pursuits, a vocation he followed during all of his active life. After remaining in New Jersey for several years, he moved to Ohio, and after-

ward to Illinois. In 1867 he came west to Labette county, Kansas, with his family, and settled upon a tract of uncultivated land in the vicinity of Matthewson. There he remained until his death. He was a man given to hard work, and was upright and honest in his dealings with all. He was a Republican, in politics, and in religious attachments was a member of the M. E. church. He married Margaret Lunney, a native of the North of Ireland, and they became the parents of six children, of whom William was the eldest.

William Busby received a limited mental training in the public schools of Illinois and Kansas. He worked upon his father's farm until two years after his marriage, when he determined to better his condition. He engaged in buying and shipping grain at Matthewson, on commission, and having accumulated a small capital at the end of one year, he decided to extend the business, and thereupon located at McCune, Kansas. He also engaged extensively in dealing in coal there, for nine years. In 1889, he removed to Parsons, although he still retained his interests at McCune. He then gave evidence of shrewd business ability and sound judgment, by acquiring considerable property in the Indian Territory, at a time when others were pronouncing it worthless; this has proved to be

one of the best paying investments he ever made. His coal mines are located at Wilburton, McAlester, and South McAlester, in the Indian Territory, and at Mineral, Kansas. His operations are very extensive, and require a large force of workers. Besides attending to his mining interests, he is general sales-agent for the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroad Company, with branch office at Oklahoma City, and main office at Parsons. He is interested in several enterprises in the city of Parsons, and is president of the Parsons Building & Mercantile Company, and vice-president and treasurer of the Parsons Crystal Ice & Cold Storage Company. He owns considerable valuable real estate in the city, as well as the handsomest residence,—it is built in the colonial style of architecture, and is located on the corner of Morgan and Fifteenth streets. Mr. Busby is a self made man in every sense that the term applies, and the people of the county are proud of his achievements. He has not only been the means of affording employment to hundreds of men, but has extended aid to all deserving it, and has given his support to charitable enterprises in a liberal manner. He is a strong Republican, in politics, served as councilman for the second ward, from 1894 to 1895, and was elected mayor of Parsons in the spring of 1901.

Mr. Busby was united in marriage with Sarah L. Bell, by whom he has the following children: Mabel L., Edna, Ralph H., Roy C., Paul D., Ruth A., and two who died in infancy. Mabel L., the eldest, married W. G. Endicott, of St. Joseph, Missouri. Fraternally, the subject of this sketch is a member of McCune Lodge, No. 237, A. F. & A. M.; Parsons Chapter and Commandery; Ellsworth Council; and Ararat Temple of the Mystic Shrine, and Consistory No. 1, of Topeka, Kan-

sas. He and his wife are devout members of the Presbyterian church, in which he is a deacon.

**J**EREMIAH B. BOYD, of Parsons, Kansas, familiarly known as "Jerry," is a self-made man in every way, and has secured for himself a reputation as a keen judge of horseflesh and fair dealing in that line,—having made this subject a life study. He was born at Fredericktown, Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1853, and is a son of G. A. and Lavina (Wise) Boyd. The latter is deceased, and the former is a stationary engineer at Galena, Kansas. Our subject has one brother, W. H. Boyd, who resides near Parsons, and is a prominent farmer and stock raiser. One sister died many years ago.

While a mere boy, Jeremiah B. Boyd left his home in Pennsylvania and was virtually reared in LaSalle county, Illinois, where he attended the common schools. While in Illinois his marriage with Julia Hungerford was consummated. One daughter was born to them, who is now deceased. In 1877 Mr. Boyd went west, and located just across the Labette county line in Neosho county, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock raising. He was one of the first to introduce Percheron horses into that section of the country. Gradually Mr. Boyd turned his attention more and more to dealing in stock until he finally leased his farm, and has since devoted his entire time to stock. For five years he was connected with J. M. Grant, of Oswego, but for the past several years he has conducted business alone at Parsons, which has practically been his home since 1878. He buys and ships horses, and also makes a specialty of buying thin horses for a small sum and, before disposing of them,

putting them into No. 1, salable condition. At his home place, a barn, 50 feet square, is prepared for this purpose; two-thirds of the building is utilized to keep horses and mules on full feed, being provided with feeding troughs which are constantly supplied with oats, hay, corn, etc. Every possible convenience calculated to reduce the work to a minimum is to be found about the barn, such as water works, water troughs, etc. Two assistants are usually employed.

Mr. Boyd attends to the greater part of his extensive business personally, however, dealing not only in Percheron and other standard breeds, but also handles some Oldenburg German Coach horses. In addition, he makes a specialty of supplying high-class draught horses and teams and fire department teams. He is justly regarded as a leader in horse dealing. He has conducted his business most successfully, and now has a wide reputation all over Southern Kansas. He purchased his present residence at 1817 Clark avenue, in 1888, and it is his intention to replace this with a handsome modern structure in the near future. In his political sentiments, he is in accord with the Republican party. He began with nothing except an abundant supply of good health and will power, and his prosperity is solely due to his own efforts, integrity and ability to make good bargains. He has won the esteem of those with whom he has business dealings, and also of those whom he meets in a purely social way.

Methodist preacher. A man of great strength of character and a devout Christian worker, he made his influence felt in the community, and did a grand work in improving the moral tone of the county. Since 1885 he has been located at Mound Valley, and has preached more or less as a local minister, although he has been active in different business ventures. He is now engaged in the general merchandise business, as a member of the firm of Graham & Cruzan. Mr. Graham was born in Connecticut, October 8, 1829, and is a son of James S. and Mary (Ingraham) Graham.

James S. Graham was a ship carpenter by trade, who moved to Iowa and from there to Kansas in 1871, and remained with his son, E. A., until his death, in 1875. His wife survived him until 1878. Both were born in Connecticut, he of Scotch and she of English parentage. They reared three sons and one daughter, as follows: William H., who died in Connecticut, in 1890; Edward A., whose twin died in infancy; Joseph, who died in 1876; and Mary (Alexander), a twin of Joseph, who was married in Connecticut, and died in Iowa.

Edward A. Graham attended the common schools of his native state, and learned the trade of a carpenter, which stood him in good stead when he was sent, as a pioneer minister, to the western wilds. He followed his trade several years, and was sent to the Kansas conference in 1867, his first charge being at Burlington, Kansas. He has been located in much new territory in Kansas, and was a great benefactor in every community in which he lived. He first came to Labette county in 1879, and preached in school-houses in lieu of church edifices, which were few at that time. He built the first church at Mound Valley, also at Hope-well and Altamont. He solicited funds for the erection of each, superintended the con-

**R**EV. E. A. GRAHAM, who was among the first ministers of the Gospel in Labette county, Kansas, and one of the oldest, if not the oldest, in the state, came to this county about 1879, as a

struction, and also worked on them. He located permanently at Mound Valley in 1885, and has since preached off and on as a local minister. He was a member of the furniture firm of Graham & Beggs for many years, and in 1897 engaged in the general merchandise business with William G. Cruzan, under the firm name of Graham & Cruzan. He is now practically retired from active business labors. He has been a successful and upright business man, and is highly respected by all who come within his influence.

Mr. Graham was united in marriage in Connecticut with Fannie Skinner, a native of that state, who died in July, 1900, at the age of sixty-five years,—a faithful Christian woman. Two children were born to them, both of whom died in infancy. In politics he strongly advocates Prohibition principles, but in national campaigns he has supported the Republican party. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for a period of twenty-one years, but is not now so affiliated. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**R**EV. SALEM HEDGES, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, in Liberty township, Labette county, Kansas, is living on section 10. He was born in Fairfield, Ohio, in 1836, and is a son of William C. and Mary C. (Thomas) Hedges.

William C. Hedges was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, in 1807, and his death occurred in Osage county, Kansas, in 1870. His wife, who was Mary C. Thomas, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1815, and died in Franklin county, Kansas, in 1892. They

reared the following children, namely: Salem; Zelda (McClelland), of Charleston, Illinois; Elijah N., of Coles county, Illinois; Mary, deceased; John, of Osage county, Kansas; Drusilla (Reihl), of Osage county; Catherine (Jamison); and George, of Colorado; and Missouri (Hedges), of Franklin county, Kansas.

Salem Hedges, whose name appears at the opening of this biography, lived in his native state, Ohio, until 1856, when he moved to Coles county, Illinois. In the fall of 1862 he enlisted in Company C, 123d Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. In 1863 and 1864 Rev. Mr. Hedges was with the famous Wilder's brigade of mounted infantry, and took part in the battles of Chickamauga, Farmington, Perryville, Milton Hill, and several minor engagements. He was wounded, and as a consequence, was honorably discharged in 1864, after which he returned to Coles county, Illinois, where he became a minister of the Gospel. He was a member of the Illinois conference of the Methodist church for seventeen years, and in 1883 was transferred to the South Kansas conference. He traveled in that district for fifteen years, and in 1899 settled on the farm where he now lives. He is universally beloved and respected by all in the community, where his many charitable acts are greatly appreciated. He goes to and fro, comforting those in sickness and distress, and his friends in the county are legion.

Rev. Mr. Hedges married Ruth Smith, who was born in Marion county, Indiana, in 1845. She was a daughter of Jacob and Lucinda (Potter) Smith. Jacob Smith was born in Switzerland county, Indiana, in 1822, and died in Marshall, Illinois, in 1895. His wife was also born in Indiana, in 1827, and her death occurred in Pennsylvania, in 1847.



They reared two children,—Ruth and Albert. The subject of this sketch and his wife have been blessed with four children, as follows: Nettie (Tilton), of Edna, Kansas, whose children are,—Grace, Clyde, Fred, and Ruth; Frank P., who is in Oswego, Kansas; Rhoda (Ramsey), who lives in Elsmore, Kansas; and Paul, who lives in Labette county. Rev. Mr. Hedges is a stanch Republican. He is a member of the G. A. R., and also of the Masonic order.

**R**ICHARD A. DAVIS, for many years a successful farmer, of Labette county, Kansas, has efficiently served in the capacity of postmaster of Altamont since 1897. He is a man of great popularity, and has many friends throughout the county.

Mr. Davis was born in Vermilion county, Indiana, August 30, 1840, and is a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Hasty) Davis, and a grandson of Absalom Davis. Samuel Davis was born at West Union, Ohio, in 1811, and in 1827 went to Vermilion county, Indiana, where he followed farming until his death, in 1889. He was a Whig, and afterward a Republican in politics. He married Elizabeth Hasty, who was born in Vermilion county, Indiana, in 1813, and died in 1854. They reared the following children: Richard A.; Barbara (Walker), a resident of Vermilion county, Indiana; Robert N., deceased; Joshua N., of Vermilion county, Indiana; and Mary (Clearwater), of Edgar county, Illinois. Samuel Davis' second wife was Catherine Cain, who died at the age of sixty years, leaving one daughter, Emily.

Richard A. Davis was reared in his native

county and there received his schooling. He enlisted as a private in Company I, 14th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., in 1861, and was subsequently commissioned sergeant. He was in the Army of the Potomac and participated in all of its important engagements. He was wounded in the leg at the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, and was mustered out of the service in 1864. After the war he returned home and farmed in Vermilion county, Illinois, until 1883, when he sold his property, went to Kansas, and settled on section 3, Fairview township, in Labette county. He owned a very fine farm, which he successfully cultivated until 1897, when he moved to the city of Altamont, where he has since resided. In the fall of the same year, he was appointed postmaster,—an office he has filled in a most creditable manner.

In 1866 Mr. Davis was joined in wedlock with Sarah Rogers, and they are the parents of eight children, as follows: Flora, deceased; Charles; Frank; Fred, who married Sally Reid; Harry; Sarah B.; Paul; and Samuel. The subject of this sketch is a member of Topping Post, No. 268, G. A. R., of Altamont, and has served in its various offices. In politics he is a firm supporter of the Republican party.

**J**ON. MORRILL INGALLS DAVISS, a prominent farmer of Fairview township, Labette county, Kansas, represents his district in the state legislature of Kansas. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, May 2, 1841, and is a son of Joshua L. and Jemima (Ingalls) Daviss.

Joshua L. Daviss was born at Ryegate, Vermont, and was there reared and schooled. He applied himself to agricultural pursuits and

followed that occupation all his life. He moved from Boston to Cuyahoga county, Ohio, where he lived fifteen years, and then removed to Minnesota, and thence to Missouri, where he lived on Gen. U. S. Grant's farm, near St. Louis, until his death. He married Jenima Ingalls, who was born in Vermont, and died at the age of seventy-eight years. They were the parents of five children: James; Augustus J.; Cordelia (Mullen); Morrill Ingalls; and Fred W.

Morrill Ingalls Daviss is distantly related to Peter Morrill, of Vermont, and to ex-Gov. Morrill, of Kansas. He received his mental training in Ohio, and lived there until his nineteenth year, when he went to Winona county, Minnesota. There he resided and was engaged in farming until 1875. He enlisted from that county, in 1864, in Company K, 1st Reg., Minn. Heavy Artillery, and served in Tennessee most of the time. He was honorably discharged in 1865. In 1875 he moved from Minnesota to Missouri, and lived on Gen. Grant's farm, near St. Louis, for three years, whence, in 1878, he came to Kansas. He settled on a farm near Columbus, Kansas, and lived there for sixteen years. In 1894 he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and purchased his present farm in the southwest quarter of section 15, Fairview township. He has been a very successful farmer. He is a Populist, in politics, and has taken an active interest in party work. He was trustee of his township in 1896, and was trustee of the Labette County High School from 1896 to 1899. At the fall election of 1899 he was elected a member of the state legislature, and is now serving in that body. He has been faithful to the best interests of his district and county, and his service has met with the hearty approval of his constituents.

Mr. Daviss was united in wedlock with Philena L. Taylor, a daughter of Jonathan Taylor, of Winona county, Minnesota, and they became the parents of six children, namely: Royal, who married Jennie Kenworthy, by whom he has a daughter, Erma; Worthy, who married Ethel Rosenberg, and has five children: Earl, Floyd, Jennie, May, and M. J.; Bertha (Shigley), who has four children,—Irving, Owen, Arthur and Lena; Mima (Stowell) and Ernest, deceased; and Tena, who was graduated from the Labette County High School, and is now teaching. Mr. and Mrs. Daviss and their family belong to the Methodist church.



PROF. W. M. KYSER, one of the best-known educators of this section of the state, is principal of the Labette County High School, located at Altamont, Kansas. He has held this position since 1898, and during that period has wrought much-needed reforms, and elevated the standard of the school. He is a man of high educational attainments, and is possessed of considerable executive ability; the manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office has won for him the hearty good will and support of the people of the county.

Prof. Kyser was born in Livingston county, Illinois, July 26, 1862, and is a son of L. W. Kyser, who is a native of Pennsylvania, and now follows the occupation of a farmer in Elk county, Kansas. W. M. Kyser received his primary education in the district schools of Crawford and Neosho counties, Kansas. He then taught for three years in the district schools of Crawford county, and three years in the district schools of Elk county, after

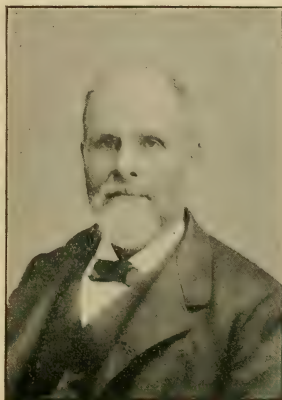
which, in the fall of 1887, he entered the state normal school at Emporia. He was graduated from this school with the class of 1890, and then taught for one year in Pittsburg, Kansas. The following four years he taught at Cottonwood Falls, Kansas, and then entered the State University of Kansas, at Lawrence. He graduated from this institution with first honors in the class of 1898, and in the fall of the same year became principal of the Labette County High School, in which capacity he has since served. He has worked to strengthen the course of the institution, and at the beginning of his second year the grade of the entrance examination was raised from 70 to 80. The faculty for 1900-1901 is as follows: W. M. Kyser, A. B., principal and instructor in sciences and criticism; J. E. McDaniel, A. M., mathematics and literature; J. F. Kaho, A. B., languages and rhetoric; Mrs. J. E. McDaniel, vocal music and elocution; and Almeda Mickey, shorthand and typewriting. The enrollment for the year is 180 students.

Prof. Kyser was united in marriage, in 1899, with Anna Rockwood, a daughter of William Rockwood, of Cottonwood Falls, Kansas. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and Fraternal Aid; and in the Masonic order has risen to the rank of Knight Templar. He is a member of the State Teachers' Association of Kansas.

**D**R. WILLIAM SMITHSON NEWLON, a portrait of whom accompanies this sketch, is widely known as a member of the medical profession of Labette county, Kansas, where he resides in the city of Oswego.

Dr. Newlon was born near Paris, Illinois,

in 1830, and is a son of Hiram Newlon. His great-great-grandfather went from Scotland or England to the North of Ireland, and then came across the ocean to the continent of North America. In 1680, with William



W. S. NEWLON.

Penn, he located at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He returned to Europe, and again came to this country in 1700. The family name has been spelled Newland, Newlin, and Newlon.

John Newlon, grandfather of the subject hereof, was a resident of Liberty, Virginia, and an uncle, or cousin, of Mrs. Dolly Madison, wife of President Madison.—she being a niece of the wife of the famous Patrick Henry. John Newlon moved to Salem, Indiana, and was a friend of James Smithson, founder of the Smithsonian Institute, and from whom comes the middle name of Dr. Newlon. John

Newlon was also related to Elijah Newland, Democratic state treasurer of Indiana, and the latter was a relative of W. De Pauw, founder of De Pauw University, of Indiana.

Hiram Newlon, the Doctor's father, was united in matrimony with Margaret Melissa Field, daughter of John Field, an early settler of Louisville, Kentucky, and a relative of General Field, of Virginia, Judge Field, of the supreme court of Louisiana, and of Governor Rector, of Arkansas. She was a niece of Wade Hampton, Sr., who was related to the great John Hampden and Oliver Cromwell. She was also a cousin of Governor Shortridge, of Alabama, and Governor Eli Shortridge, of North Dakota. The ancestors of Dr. Newlon were all Southerners, originally, and were slaveholders.

Dr. W. S. Newlon received a common school and academic education, after which he was engaged in teaching, for four years. He then studied medicine and pharmacy, under his brothers, Doctors J. F. and B. F. Newlon, of Dallas, Illinois, and in 1853 went overland to California and engaged in mining. He assisted in the effort to make John C. Fremont president in 1856, and then returned to Dallas, Illinois, where he married Maria Wimp, in 1857. He purchased a large tract of land at Newlon's Grove, Cass county, Iowa, and engaged in farming, also taking an active part in politics. He was elected justice of the peace and county superintendent of schools. He was the Republican county central committee-man, and assisted in raising the 4th Reg., Iowa Vol. Inf., to repel several threatened Rebel invasions. He organized the first Union League in the United States, and was elected lieutenant in a company of Iowa militia. He attended a regular course of lectures and graduated from the Iowa University (Keokuk

branch) of Physicians and Surgeons, in 1863. He practiced medicine and pharmacy four years, at Dallas, Illinois, and served as president of the city school board. He helped to raise several regiments of Illinois troops and provide them with sanitary supplies. He originated a branch of what is now the C. B. & Q. R. R., running through Dallas, Illinois.

Dr. Newlon moved to Oswego, Kansas, on Indian lands, in 1867, and engaged in the practice of medicine and pharmacy. He became one of the town site company, and was elected its treasurer. He became a charter member of the Congregational church and helped to build a house of worship and a parsonage. He was first secretary, and then president and superintendent of the Oswego school board, and helped to build the first schoolhouse. He was a charter member of Adams Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and Oswego Chapter, No. 15, R. A. M., and was elected first warden of the former and high priest of the latter. He was first vice-president, and afterward president, of the Labette County Medical Society. He helped to perform the first amputation of a thigh in the county, with a bowie knife and butcher's saw, and it was successful. He was for several years chairman of the Prohibition central committee, and was the candidate of that gallant little party for the county treasurership and for congress. He was also a candidate on that ticket for presidential elector. When the great "exodus" began to be felt in Kansas, and the aforetime slaves commenced to come in large numbers, Dr. Newlon was appointed physician and manager of the 1,000 Freedmen newly arrived. The work ran through several years, and was a great tax on the pocket and health of the manager. Dr. Newlon made daily meteorological observations, for several years, at Oswego. He collected the indigenous

plants of Southern Kansas for the Centennial Exposition, in 1876. He made geological and ichthyological reports of the county to the government. He observed the flight and habits of birds for several years, and the food and habits of the English sparrow, for the United States Department of Agriculture. He made many geological surveys and tours in Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois, and the Indian Territory. He collected insects, cryptogams, fishes, reptiles, crustaceans, and myriopods for Washburn College, at Topeka, Kansas. He made a biological survey of Kansas, and made many investigations of Southern Kansas archaeology. He found several fossil cephalopods, new to science, and several insects, crustaceans, plants and new fishes. He wrote an early paper for *The Medical Journal* on the screw fly. He was one of the first to write papers and impute a germ origin to disease; he also traced consumption and other maladies to germs. These imputations were published in the *St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal* and the *Peoria Medical Journal*, at the time. He discovered and published the virtue of, and introduced into medical practice, *Sabbatia Camp*. *Elephantopus*, *Helianthus Org.*, *Grindelia Lan.*, *Symphoricarpos Vulg.* and *Vesicaria*. He was elected entomologist of the Labette County Horticultural Society, and gave many lectures on orchard pests. He has published many papers on scientific and medical subjects, and is in correspondence with the leading scientists of the United States. Health failing him, he has engaged in limited practice in his profession, in addition to which he publishes a little scientific paper known as *The Golden Rod*. Dr. Newlon has a large library of books and a geological, entomological and conchological collection.

He was united in marriage, in 1857, with

Maria Wimp, who died in 1871, leaving four children: Dr. C. S. Newlon, of Winfield, Kansas; Mrs. Grace Campbell, of Wichita; Mrs. Dr. C. N. Bush, and Mrs. Dr. J. Laws, of Chetopa, Kansas. Dr. C. S. Newlon is superintendent of one of the grandest institutions of the state of Kansas, the State Asylum for Idiotic and Imbecile Youth, at Winfield. This institution is in a flourishing condition, and reflects great credit upon the superintendent.

Dr. Newlon formed a second union by wedding Mrs. M. L. Stevens, widow of Colonel Samuel Stevens, who fell before Petersburg, Virginia. She had one son by her first marriage, Judge F. F. Stevens, of Waukomis, Oklahoma. Dr. and Mrs. Newlon became the parents of two children: W. B., who graduated from the Kansas City (Kansas) Medical College with high honors; and John Smithson Newlon, who died November 2, 1899. Mrs. Newlon passed from this life March 20, 1899. She was connected with some well known families,—her ancestors having come to this country in the seventeenth century, and some of her family having taken an active part in the War of the Revolution.



H. BREHM, master mechanic for eight divisions of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, with residence at Parsons, Kansas, has been identified with the city's growth and development for the past seventeen years. Mr. Brehm was born in Norwich, Connecticut, in 1849.

Mr. Brehm was educated in Piermont, Rockland county, New York, and in 1858 accompanied his parents to Vincennes, Indiana. Mr. Brehm lived there nine years, and then

went to St. Louis, Missouri. Shortly after, he went east to St. Louis, where he entered the locomotive department of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad Company, which is now the Baltimore & Ohio South-Western Railroad Company. After leaving St. Louis, he spent three years on a farm. He took up his residence in Parsons, Kansas, in 1884, and entered the shops of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, as a machinist. Being a careful and painstaking worker, and having a decided taste for mechanical work, he soon received a promotion. This promotion was soon followed by others,—his advancement being very rapid,—and today he is master mechanic for eight divisions of the road. He is held in high esteem by his fellow workmen, and his present position shows the confidence placed in him by his employers.

Mr. Brehm was united in marriage with Rebecca Severns, and their union has resulted in the birth of the following children: Charles, Alberta, Oliver, Arthur, Mabel, William, and Pauline. Mr. Brehm is a member of the M. W. of A., A. O. U. W., Fraternal Aid and K. O. T. M. He always assists in all public enterprises, and is a public spirited and progressive citizen. The subject of this sketch is well known in Parsons and its vicinity.



R. BROWN is president of the Inter-State Mortgage & Trust Company, of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, and is one of the best known business men of the county.

Mr. Brown was born in Felts Mills, Jefferson county, New York, November 14, 1839, and is a son of Remson R. Brown. The latter was born in the Mohawk Valley, New York

State, in 1819. He followed the hotel business during his active business career, and has lived in Parsons, Kansas, since 1900. He joined the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in January, 1901, and is the oldest person known to have been taken into the order in the state of Kansas.

J. R. Brown was reared and schooled in his native county, where he lived until 1863. In that year, he came west, to St. Joseph, Missouri, and for two years was engaged in freighting from that city, over the mountains, to Montana and Idaho. He returned to the East, where he remained for a period of three years, and in 1869 located at Nevada, Missouri. There he engaged in the cattle business and bore the distinction of having built the first brick building in that city. In 1871, he settled in Parsons, Kansas, and became one of the proprietors of the old Belmont Hotel, under the style of Brown & Rasbach. This he conducted for about five years. He was then engaged in the real estate business until 1888, when he helped to organize the Inter-State Mortgage & Trust Company, of which he was elected president and manager. The other officers are F. M. Thompson, of Greenfield, Massachusetts, vice-president; I. F. Adams, formerly of Vermont, treasurer; and W. N. Snow, of Greenfield, Massachusetts, cashier. Since the organization of the company, Mr. Brown has devoted his entire time and energy to it, and has made it a great success. It has a paid up capital of \$100,000, and is in a thriving condition.

Mr. Brown was united in marriage, in 1869, with Josephine Roberts, of Jefferson county, New York, and they have one son, Sherman, who is now a resident of San Francisco, California. Fraternally, the subject of this sketch is a Mason, Odd Fellow and a



member of the B. P. O. E. In Masonry, he has advanced to the thirty-second degree, belonging to the Consistory at Topeka, Kansas.

**E**UGENE B. STEVENS, a gentleman widely known in the financial circles of Labette county, Kansas, is cashier and manager of the First National Bank of Parsons. He was born at Sturgeon Bay, Door county, Wisconsin, in 1857, and is a son of Ezra B. and Mary F. (Cahoon) Stevens.

Ezra B. Stevens was born in New Hampshire, and came to Kansas in 1868, in charge of bridges and buildings of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company. He made his home in Parsons until his death in 1874, at the age of sixty-two years. He was the first elected mayor of Parsons, after the city was organized, and was one of the charter stockholders of the First National Bank, organized in 1872. He served as a director of the latter until his death. He married Mary F. Cahoon, a native of Vermont, who now resides in Parsons, and they became the parents of three children, as follows: Eugene B., Ida M. (Karr), and Mabel (Black).

Eugene B. Stevens received his primary education in Buffalo, New York, to which place his parents moved in 1865. He journeyed to Kansas in 1868, locating at Junction City, where he continued to live and where he went to school until 1871. In that year, at the age of fourteen, he became a resident of Parsons. After finishing his schooling, he was given a position with the First National Bank in 1877. He was made assistant cashier of the bank in February, 1881, and cashier in July, 1890. He has served in the latter capacity ever since, and

has been very successful in his work. He was also a member and director of the Parsons Town Company.

In 1883 Mr. Stevens was united in marriage with Mary Barton, a daughter of James and Susanna Barton, of Parsons, who were formerly residents of Peru, Illinois. They have three children: Mary, Gertrude, and Ida. Fraternally, he is a Mason, having taken the Scottish Rite degree, and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a Republican, in politics, and was honored by election to the office of mayor of Parsons, serving from 1895 to 1897.

**H**ON. CHARLES H. KIMBALL, one of the able lawyers of Labette county, Kansas, is widely known throughout this section of the state by reason of the numerous public enterprises which he has founded, fostered and controlled. As a lawyer, he has given evidence of his ability in many important cases of more than local prominence.

Mr. Kimball was born at Carthage, Jefferson county, New York, January 1, 1846, and is a son of Charles H. and Eleanor (Planck) Kimball. Charles H. Kimball, Sr., was born in 1812, at Haverhill, Massachusetts, where he was reared, and whence he moved to New York State when a young man. He was a contractor, and followed that line of work all of his life, dying in 1882, in his native town. He was first united in marriage with Susan Vinton, who died, leaving five daughters, as follows: Julia L. (Briggs), of Rome, New York; Augusta B. (Smith), of Brooklyn, New York; Caroline S. (Wilmot), of Watertown, New York; Mary L., deceased wife of O. M.

Mason, until her death, in 1900, a resident of Jamestown, New York; and Deborah, wife of T. M. Foster, of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Mr. Kimball's second wife was Eleanor Planck, who died when the subject of this sketch was a child,—he being the sole issue of this union.

Charles H. Kimball was reared at Carthage, New York, and attended the public schools there. He entered the academy at Rome, New York, which he left to join the army, in 1863. He enlisted as a private in Company D, 10th New York Heavy Artillery, but owing to parental objections was not mustered into service, although he spent some months with the regiment. He was permitted to enter the military academy at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and in October, 1864, was appointed second lieutenant in the 43d Reg., U. S. Colored Troops,—remaining with that command until mustered out in the summer of 1865. He participated in the engagements at Hatch's Run; Petersburg, on the Bermuda Hundred front, between the James and Appomattox rivers; the capture of Fort Harrison; and he was among the first of the troops to enter the city of Richmond, in the spring of 1865. He was, later, quarantine officer in charge of Fort Jackson, near Savannah, several months, and was appointed first lieutenant in the 116th Reg., U. S. Colored Troops, for service on the Rio Grande or Mexican frontier,—being finally mustered out in the spring of 1866. He returned home and took a course in law and art in St. Lawrence University at Canton, New York. As the law department of that institution was discontinued, he entered the Albany Law School, from which he was graduated in 1871, in a class of 50. He began practice in New York State, after admission to the bar, but soon determined to go west.

Mr. Kimball located in Parsons, in 1872,

and his subsequent career has been one of the greatest activity. He formed a partnership with T. C. Cory, now deceased, which lasted from 1873 until 1877. He was then in partnership with Judge A. H. Ayers until the latter's death, on June 17, 1882, since which time he has been associated with A. A. Osgood, a very able lawyer. They are engaged in general practice, and have a large and well established clientage. Mr. Kimball has been employed at different times by several counties in tax litigation, and, especially, was he prominent in the early "seventies," in the contest over the Osage Ceded Lands. He was employed by this county in the prosecution of Marion Ashbell for wife murder,—a case which attracted no little attention. He has occupied his present suite of offices over the First National Bank, since 1874. In 1878, he organized the Memphis, Kansas & Colorado Railway Company, with local capital and built 47 miles of narrow-gauge railroad from Parsons to the junction with the "Frisco" road, near the east line of the state. This was afterward sold to the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf Railroad Company, and by that company changed to a standard gauge. This gave Parsons another route through the coal fields to St. Louis, inciting competition and greatly reducing the price of coal. In 1884, he organized the Parsons & Pacific R. R., now a branch of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway. In furtherance of this enterprise, he went to New York to interest eastern capital, thus securing the construction of the road to Coffeyville and Paola. The city water works system,—small originally,—was bought by Mr. Kimball and Edwin H. Edwards, and by them rebuilt in 1892. They have a thirty-years' franchise and give good service to the city. In 1888, Mr. Kimball organized a company

and built the ice plant, of which L. R. Roter is manager. He also organized a company which operated a telegraph line from Kansas City to Coffeyville, and is now a part of the Western Union system. He was president of all these enterprises at one time, and to him is largely due their growth and present flourishing condition. In 1881, he built the Kimball Hotel, which he still owns. He erected the first three-story building in Parsons, and put in the first plate-glass windows used in the city. He owns a large amount of business and residence property in Parsons.

In 1878, Mr. Kimball was united in marriage with Helen Webster, of Fort Plain, New York. She was born in 1851, and is a daughter of Hon. Peter G. Webster, a prominent lawyer of Fort Plain. Her grandfather was a cousin of the illustrious Daniel Webster, and her grandmother was a Wagner. Her mother, whose maiden name was McCall, was a daughter of Dr. McCall, a relative of Roscoe Conklin. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kimball, namely: Charles W., Eleanor, Paul H., Pierre M., Bruce P., and Webster W. Charles W., who is twenty years of age; is attending Lawrence University. He served one year in the United States Navy during the Spanish-American War, and received favorable mention for his conduct. He is preparing for a journalistic career, and has written several articles relating to his travels, which have been published by the leading papers of the country. He edited the *High School Sentinel* during his senior year in college. Eleanor died in infancy. Paul H., aged fifteen years, attends school; Pierre M. is fourteen years of age; Bruce P. is twelve years of age; and Webster W. is aged ten years. The subject of this sketch is a Republican, in politics, and in early years served as city attorney. In 1884,

he was elected to the state senate, and served from 1885 to 1893. He is a thirty-second-degree Mason, and is a member of Topeka Consistory, Scottish Rites, and of Abdallah Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, of Leavenworth, Kansas. He is a member of Antietam Post, G. A. R., of Parsons. Religiously, Mrs. Kimball attends the Episcopal church.



DWIN H. EDWARDS, who for many years has been one of the most enterprising citizens of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, is president of the Parsons Commercial Bank. He has been identified with many public enterprises, which have inured greatly to the benefit of the citizens of the community.

Mr. Edwards was born in Jefferson county, New York, August 31, 1833, and was reared and educated in DeKalb county, Illinois, whither his parents had moved in 1846. He first attended school in a little log schoolhouse, and subsequently attended Lee Center Academy and Mount Morris Academy. With C. L. Allen, now of Los Angeles, California, and Gen. Smith D. Atkins, now of Freeport, Illinois, he went to Savanna, Illinois, and established a paper, which they conducted for a few years. Mr. Edwards then went to Earlville, Illinois, where he was engaged as a merchant until 1875. On January 1, 1875, he located in Parsons, Kansas, where he was engaged in the hardware and implement business for many years, which he relinquished in 1883. He has been identified with the Commercial Bank since 1878, and since 1883 has served in the capacity of president. He is a man of superior executive ability, and of keen foresight in business transactions. and under his

efficient management the bank has been exceedingly prosperous. He also built the Parsons Water Works, in 1884, in connection with Charles H. Kimball, who now serves as president of the company,—Mr. Edwards being vice-president and treasurer. The plant was rebuilt in 1892, at a cost of \$226,000. He has also erected many modern buildings in the city. He enjoys the highest esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens not only for his great business ability, but also on account of his many excellent traits of character.

In 1858 Mr. Edwards was united in marriage with Verona Palmer, by whom he has two children: Grace and Myra. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order, and a Knight Templar. Politically, he favors the Democratic party.



S. ELLIS, a well known citizen of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, is president and general manager of the Parsons Natural Gas Company. He was born in Pontiac, Michigan, but left his native county when a small boy,—his parents having moved to Coldwater, Michigan, where, in the course of time, he engaged in the produce business. He was married in 1878, at Coldwater, and in 1879, went to West Superior, Wisconsin, and devoted himself to real estate and loan transactions with much success. He mainly followed that line of work until 1893, at various places. In 1881, he went to Fargo, North Dakota, and resided there three years. Later he moved to Lisbon, North Dakota, and while there served one term as judge of the probate court. In 1887, he returned to West Superior and resided there until 1893, when he moved west, to Oswego, Kansas, and became identified with the Deming Investment

Company. Upon the organization of the Parsons Natural Gas Company, in 1897, Mr. Ellis became its president and manager and maintains an office in the city of Parsons.

In 1878, Mr. Ellis was united in marriage with Alice Kearney, of Eaton Rapids, Michigan, and they have the following children: Florence, Alice (Lamb), and Lewis. Politically, the subject of this sketch is a Republican. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M.; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; the Ancient Order of United Workmen; and the Knights of the Maccabees. At Lisbon, North Dakota, he served in the city council and as clerk of the board of education.



HARRY H. LUSK, who has been prominently before the public eye of Labette county, Kansas, for many years, is postmaster of the city of Parsons and is also editor and owner of a weekly and a daily paper published in Parsons. He is a man of great enterprise and public spirit,—being one of the most prominent residents of the county. Through the medium of his publications, he lends his hearty support to all public improvements and measures tending toward the general welfare.

Mr. Lusk was born at Edinburg, Indiana, April 14, 1857, and when a child went with his parents to Illinois, where he received a common school education. He left home at the age of fourteen years to make his way in the world, and what success he has since attained is the result of his own efforts. He located at Olney, Illinois, and owned, edited and published the *Olney Ledger* for six years, after which he removed to Parsons, Kansas, in 1878. He purchased the *Parsons Sun*, then a struggling weekly journal, issued irregular-





COL. ELIAS BRIGGS BALDWIN.





EVELYN B. BALDWIN.



ly. Infusing his great energy into the work, he placed it upon a paying basis, and two years later established a daily paper; both of them he has since continuously owned, edited and published. He received the appointment of postmaster of Parsons from President Harrison, in 1889, and served in that capacity for five years and eleven days. He was again appointed to that office by President McKinley, in 1897, and has served up to the present time. He has engaged more or less in politics, having served as chairman of the Labette county Republican central committee, and as chairman of the Republican congressional committee of the Third District of Kansas. Mr. Lusk has been fairly successful financially and politically.



OL. ELIAS BRIGGS BALDWIN, one of the early pioneers, and a prominent citizen of Labette county, Kansas, resides at Edna. He bears a most honorable record for service during the Civil War, and his extended business career, unblemished by a single act of dishonor, bespeaks the character of the man. He was engaged in farming in Elm Grove township for many years, and is still the owner of large landed interests. He was born in Dutchess county, New York, June 17, 1834, and is a son of Jacob and Abigail (Briggs) Baldwin. The ancestry of the Baldwin family can be accurately traced through Richard Baldwin, an Englishman, back to the sixteenth century. In 1639, three brothers came from England to America, one stopping in New Jersey, another in Virginia, and the third, James Baldwin, from whom Col. Baldwin is directly descended, settled at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Jacob Baldwin was born near Hopewell,

Dutchess county, New York, December 25, 1807, and was reared on a farm. He loved books, was a great reader, and took an active interest in current politics. In January, 1833, at her home, he was united in marriage with Abigail Briggs, a daughter of Elias and Katherine (Campbell) Briggs. The Briggs family was a very wealthy one, and owned large estates in Dutchess and Columbia counties. She was one of 10 children, the others being as follows: Nancy, Athalina, Amy, Sarah, Katherine, Melissa, Robert E., Walter M., and Caleb C. Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin resided in Dutchess county until 1838. They then moved to Victory, Cayuga county, New York, and in 1858, to Hale, Illinois, where Mr. Baldwin died in October, 1893. She died at Kirkwood, Illinois, January 25, 1888, at the age of seventy-five years and six months. They were the parents of 15 children, of whom 12 grew to maturity. They were as follows: Elias Briggs, the gentleman whose name heads these lines; Elisha Jacob, who was born June 1, 1836, and resides at Carthage, Missouri; Philetus Robert, who was born February 26, 1838, and lives in California; Charlotte Josephine (Hall), of Kirkwood, Illinois, who was born December 12, 1839; Frances Jerlene (Bruyn), of Chicago, who was born October 13, 1841; Daniel P., who was born May 11, 1844, and was killed at the battle of Resaca (Georgia), May 14, 1864; Sarah Melissa, who was born March 3, 1846, and died at the age of one year; Miletus Oscar, of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, who was born August 23, 1848; Charles Hamilton, deceased, who was born November 18, 1849; Noah Augustus, who was born September 18, 1851, and is an editor, at Fairview, Iowa; George W., of El Reno, Oklahoma, who was born September 20, 1853; Hattie Minora (Durand), of Topeka, Kansas, who was born

September 24, 1854; Elmer Arthur, an attorney-at-law, of Omaha, Nebraska, who was born October 9, 1856; and two others, twins, who died in infancy.

Elias Briggs Baldwin attended the public schools at the academy at Red Creek, New York, and in 1854, at the age of twenty years, went to Rhode Island, where he attended the Providence Conference Seminary, and also studied medicine. He taught school in Rhode Island and Connecticut, and for a time worked as bookkeeper in a wholesale grocery house at Providence. In 1857, he went to Auburn, New York, and studied medicine, and in 1858 journeyed west to Aurora, Illinois, where he taught for five terms, in Clark Seminary. Then the Civil War broke out, and he was one of five brothers who tendered their services to their country, although but two of them were accepted,—the subject hereof, and Daniel P., who lost his life in battle. The former enlisted, April 13, 1861, was elected captain of Company C, 36th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and was mustered into service in August, 1861, under Col. Greusel. He went with his company to Missouri, and served in the Department of the Southwest. In February, 1862, he was made quartermaster at Springfield, Missouri, relieving Gen. Sheridan. He served as captain until August, 1862, when he was promoted to be lieutenant-colonel of the 8th Reg., Mo. Vol. Cav., in the Third Division, under Gen. Heron. He served as provost marshal of the division until June, 1863, when his health failed, and he returned to Aurora, Illinois, and was engaged in mercantile pursuits for one year. As his health failed to improve, he removed to a farm he had previously purchased in Clinton county, Iowa, and on this he resided for four years. In the fall of 1868, he moved to Ottawa, Franklin county, Kansas, where he

stayed until May, 1869, and then located at Chetopa, Labette county. In May, 1870, he removed to the farm he still owns in Howard township, in sections 1 and 2, township 35, range 18, east, and resided there until 1884. He was then elected clerk of the district court, at Oswego, and served in that capacity two successive terms. He returned to his farm in the fall of 1894. He and his sons, together, own more than 500 acres of valuable farm land. In the fall of 1900, he removed to Edna, which had long been his postoffice address, and there purchased lots and built a comfortable home.

Mr. Baldwin was married in Naperville, Illinois, in September, 1861, to Julia C. Crampton, who died in Iowa, in November, 1866,—leaving three children, as follows: Evelyn B., Milton N., and Barton L. Evelyn B., a gentleman in whom Labette county takes great pride, is famous throughout this country by reason of his Polar expeditions with Peary and others. He is now associated with W. A. Zeigler, a capitalist, and has fitted out an expedition, which started in search of the north pole in July, 1901. He is recognized as a remarkable man; he is practical in his methods of procedure, and expects success to attend his efforts. Milton N., the second son, is a nurseryman of Princeton, Illinois. Barton L. resides at Sapulpa, in the Creek Nation.

Mr. Baldwin formed a second matrimonial alliance by wedding Lydia A. Gibbs at Boston, Massachusetts, in 1867. She is a daughter of Alpheus and Sophia Gibbs, and was born in Bridgton, Maine, in 1837, whence she removed to Massachusetts, with her aunt when she was ten years of age. Her grandfather Gibbs was a native of Massachusetts and of English parentage,—two brothers of the family having come to this country shortly after the Mayflower brought the Pilgrims. He and his wife

were among the earliest settlers of Bridgton, Maine. Alpheus Gibbs died in the West at an early age, and his widow died in Maine. They had four children: Aaron, a retired farmer of Bridgton, Maine; Charles B., who is in the ice business at the same place; Lydia A.; and Mary (Gleason), a widow, residing also at Bridgton. Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin have had two children: Edwin M., who died at Oswego, at the age of twenty-one years; and Julia A., wife of O. W. Ball, manager of C. M. Condon's mercantile interests at Oswego, Edna and Cherryvale,—they have two children, Charles Edwin and Geraldine. Politically, Col. Baldwin is a Republican, and cast his first vote for John C. Fremont. He has served as justice of the peace and held other township offices. Fraternally, he is a member of the G. A. R., and was commander for six years, at Oswego and Edna. He was made a Mason in Illinois in 1861, and is also a member of Chetopa Lodge, A. O. U. W.; and the Select Knights, of Parsons. In religious belief he is a Methodist.

On preceding pages of this publication, in connection with this biography, are shown portraits of Col. Baldwin and his eldest son, Evelyn B.

**D**R. W. A. HAZLETT, a rising young dentist of Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, located in the city in March, 1895. He has a large number of patrons, and is a skillful and thorough operator. Dr. Hazlett was born in Jackson county, Ohio, February 13, 1873, and is a son of Eli Hazlett. He received his early education in the schools of Warrensburg, Missouri, where his mother had taken up her residence. He attended the state normal school at War-

rensburg; and took up the study of dentistry under the preceptorship of Dr. Griggs and Dr. Cress, of Warrensburg. He also attended the Western Dental College, at Kansas City, Missouri, and graduated from that institution in the spring of 1895. Dr. Hazlett at once began the practice of dentistry in Oswego, Kansas, where he now lives, and has gradually worked up a patronage which would do credit to an older man.

Dr. Hazlett was united in marriage, February 27, 1900, to Elizabeth I. Longwell, of Hillsboro, Illinois. This estimable lady is very popular in the social set of Oswego. The subject of this sketch is a member of the M. W. A.; A. O. U. W. and K. of P. Politically, he is a Republican.



**I**N. UTTERSON, mayor of the city of Oswego, who conducts a large undertaking and furniture establishment in that city, carries a very extensive line of high grade stock, and commands the patronage of the leading citizens of his section of the county.

Mr. Uttersen is a native of Scotland, his birth occurring in Edinburg November 15, 1849. He was reared and schooled in his native city, and took up the trade of a cabinet-maker when about sixteen years of age. He came to America in 1869, at the age of twenty years, and was located in Chicago for one year. He then moved to Fort Scott, Kansas, but after a stay of a few months went to Humboldt, Kansas. There he followed his line of business until October, 1890, when he settled in Oswego, Labette county. He began the undertaking and furniture business in 1870, manufacturing all of his own furniture. Upon locating in Oswego, he purchased a store,

which he remodeled and restocked, and in connection with this has conducted a repair shop. He has been favored with a large patronage, and his business has been a success in every way.

In 1873, Mr. Utterson was united in marriage with Anna McLeod, a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, and they are parents of three children: David, Charles, and Nellie, who died at the age of eighteen years. Fraternally Mr. Utterson is a Mason, and has risen to the rank of Knight Templar. He is also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star lodge; Modern Woodmen of America; Ladies and Knights of Security; Sons and Daughters of Justice; and Home Builders. Politically, he is a Republican, and was a member of the school board of Oswego for a period of six years. April 2, 1901, Mr. Utterson was elected mayor of Oswego, and took the oath of office, April 5th following.

---

**J**ACOB BRASCHLER, who is a native of Switzerland, has for the past ten years made his home in Osage township, in section 10, township 32, range 18, east, Labette county, Kansas, where he is well known as a man of good judgment and sound principles. He is a son of Jacob and Mary Braschler; who were also natives of Switzerland.

Jacob Braschler, Sr., was a farmer in Switzerland, and he and his wife were the parents of 14 children, named as follows: Susie, Elizabeth, Regala, Conrad, Henry, Barbara, Lucetta, Susannah, Elsbach, Jacob, Mary, Segula, and two who died in infancy.

Jacob Braschler was reared and schooled in his native country, and set sail for the United States, in 1858. He landed at Gal-

veston, Texas, and remained in the state of Texas for four years. He then went to St. Louis, Missouri, where he lived two years. Thence he journeyed to Franklin, Missouri. After living there a short time, he located at Lawrence, Kansas, and then moved to Johnson county, Kansas, and remained there until 1879, when he settled in Labette county. He took up the farm, where he now lives, and for the past ten years has carried on general farming and stock raising. He reached Kansas with very little money, and his success has been entirely of his own making. He now has one of the best farms in the township, and is well up in agricultural matters.

Mr. Braschler is a member of the Republican party. He is a leading member of the German M. E. church, and takes an active interest in all church affairs. Mr. Braschler has numerous friends in Labette county, who respect him for his many good qualities. The subject of this sketch was married December 6, 1860, in Franklin county, Missouri, to Mary Capps, a native of Pennsylvania. Unto them were born ten children, of whom nine are still living. Their names are: Matilda, Emma, Lewis, Annie, Helen, Louisa, Lydia, Edward, Albert, and Mattie, who died when six days old.

---

**D**R. LEE WILLIAMS. This gentleman is one of the most prominent and successful physicians of Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, where he has resided since 1878. He was born at Pleasant Hill, Miami county, Ohio, in 1850, and is a son of Isaac Williams. Isaac Williams was also a native of Miami county, Ohio, where he followed the occupation of farming, and died at an early age.



Dr. Lee Williams received his primary education at Pleasant Hill, and assisted his father in farming until he took up the study of medicine. He began his medical studies with Dr. S. W. Keister, and later took a lecture course at the Louisville (Kentucky) Medical College. His last course, he took at the Kentucky School of Medicine, at Louisville, Kentucky, where he was graduated in the class of 1877. He commenced practice in Oswego, Kansas, in 1878, and has remained there ever since. He is an excellent physician, and has a large practice in Oswego and the surrounding country. He has been very successful in his chosen profession, and Oswego people place much confidence in him, and speak only in the highest terms of his ability.

Dr. Williams married Lucy Davenport, in 1870, and they have one child,—Cora Lee. Dr. Williams was one of the original stockholders in the First National Bank of Oswego, and also of the Oswego State Bank, and for a number of years has been a director in both institutions. He is president of the board of education, having held that office for six years. He is a member of Adams Lodge, No. 63 A. F. & A. M. In politics Dr. Williams was formerly a Republican, but now votes the Democratic ticket. He takes an active interest in the welfare of Oswego.

**E**DWARD L. SKELTON, an extensive real estate owner of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, established, built, and still owns the Parsons Foundry & Novelty Works, though he does not operate them, and is proprietor of a general repair shop for guns, bicycles, etc., on Forest avenue. Mr. Skelton was born at Lock-

port, Will county, Illinois, March 3, 1854, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Pitch) Skelton, both of English nativity.

George Skelton was born in Lincolnshire, England, March 15, 1833. He came to America in 1852, sailing from Hull, having previously married the mother of Elizabeth Pitch, who was also born in Lincolnshire, April 9, 1833. Upon their arrival in the United States, they located in Lockport, Illinois, where they lived for about ten years. In 1862, they removed into another county, but still continued to reside in Illinois until 1869, when the father and Edward L. moved farther west, and located in Labette county, Kansas. October 30th of the same year, the elder Mr. Skelton purchased from Mr. Axton a claim in North township, in sections 26, 31 and 30, township 31, range 20. They brought with them six horses, and in the winter of 1869 and 1870 the son remained on the claim and "bached," while the father returned for the rest of the family. In the spring of 1870, the subject hereof met them at Fort Scott, Kansas, and they proceeded overland to their future home having traveled by rail as far as Girard, Kansas. George Skelton died in the fall of 1886, but his widow is still living. She resides in Newburg, Oregon, on a fruit farm. Six children are still living, namely: Edward L.; George P., now of Pendleton, Oregon, but formerly postmaster of Pilot Rock; Mary (Alexander), of Parsons; John, owner of a cattle ranch in Oregon; Anna (McIntosh), a resident of North township, whose daughter, Rose, is now deceased; and Charles, a farmer residing with his mother in Oregon.

In December, 1880, Mr. Skelton was united in marriage with Artie M. Story, a daughter of Joseph Story, one of the pioneer settlers of Kansas. Six children blessed this union, three

of whom are deceased. Those still living are: Eva May, a graduate of the Parsons High School; and Nellie and Lena, both of whom are students.

Edward L. Skelton attended the common schools of Illinois, and of Labette county, Kansas. He was one of the first pupils to attend school in Franklin District, No. 55, North township, where his father helped to erect the first school building, which was made of black walnut boards. When Mr. Skelton reached his majority, he purchased land in sections 37, 21 and 20. He killed his first deer near Lenn Steele's sawmill on the forks of Labette creek. At that time Martin Davis was his nearest neighbor. Long before the town of Parsons was laid out, Mr. Skelton and Charles Anderson, with two mules, broke the first sod upon the site of that city, on the same ground where the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway shops are now located. Mr. Skelton also helped riprap the pond back of the shops, then purchased his claim and paid for it in three years. Quite recently he exchanged this farm for city property. He was a member of the Settlers' Protective Association. Removing to Parsons in the early "seventies," he soon after commenced work for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, and assisted in placing and installing machinery. Later, he did similar work in Denison, Texas, and spent one winter on the transfer gang.

Returning to Parsons he opened a gun shop over Lenn Steele's blacksmith shop, having learned the trade with a Mr. Piatt. He subsequently returned for a brief time to service on the railroad. In 1879, he established and built the Parsons Foundry & Novelty Works, which he operated in a very successful manner for eleven years, using at first a threshing machine engine for motive power. This plant is located on the corner of Grand avenue and Twenty-

first street, on lots 18 and 19, block 51. The main building is 30 by 60 feet, in dimensions, and is a two-story brick structure. The foundry proper, is a frame building, and has the same dimensions, while an additional shed has been erected, 30 by 60 feet in size. The blacksmith shop in the rear has dimensions of 14 by 60 feet. In this factory novelties and architectural work were manufactured from the founding of the plant. At a later period, more attention was given to the machine department and Mr. Skelton engaged to do the machine work for the Parsons & Pacific Railway at Parsons. Thus from a small beginning, the plant was gradually enlarged to its present dimensions, and from 12 to 14 experienced workmen are now required to fill all orders. Of late years, the plant has been leased to Mr. Edgar, as the business was too confining, and the health of Mr. Skelton was somewhat impaired.

After recuperating for about two years, Mr. Skelton engaged in real estate dealing, and has built up quite a little business in that line. While operating the foundry, his business had been so successful that he was enabled to build nine different houses. He was one of the men who believed in the advancement of Parsons, and at the present writing owns and rents a large number of houses in the city, having speculated in real estate quite advantageously.

Mr. Skelton was not satisfied, however, except when working at his chosen calling, and after dealing in real estate a couple of years, he opened a repair shop in 1899, for guns, bicycles, etc., at No. 1808 Forest avenue. This he conducts at the present time, employing two competent workmen as assistants. In his political views, Mr. Skelton has always been a Republican. He has served as councilman from the Third Ward, for four years. He affiliates with the I. O. O. F. and K. of P.

lodges,—having filled all the chairs of both. He has attended the sessions of the grand lodge of the former on three different occasions. Mrs. Skelton is a member of the auxiliary lodges of both organizations. Mr. Skelton is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has been a member of the Parsons fire department for many years, and at the present time is assistant chief. The family favor the Christian church, and are among the most prosperous and prominent citizens of Parsons.

**D**R. CHARLES ROCKHOLD has been prominently identified with the affairs of Parsons, Kansas, where he located in 1872. He has been most successful in the practice of the medical profession, and enjoys a lucrative practice in Parsons and vicinity.

Dr. Rockhold was born in Wayne county, Iowa, and at the age of nine years moved with his parents to Mercer county, Missouri. He attended a district school in Wayne county, Iowa, and received his tuition in the higher branches at Grand River College, in Grundy county, Missouri, having taught school for one year previous to entering that institution. In 1862, he enlisted in Company B, of what was called the Revanna Battalion, and served for a period of six months. He studied medicine at the Keokuk Medical College in Iowa, and was graduated in 1864. His first practice was in Wayne county, Iowa, where he remained but a short time, and afterward in Saline county, Missouri, where he successfully practiced for seven years. In September, 1872, he located at Parsons, Kansas, and engaged in the practice of medicine, and has thus contin-

ued with good success. He is careful in diagnosing cases and skillful in treating them, and enjoys the confidence of his patients to a remarkable degree. Personally, he is a man of pleasing characteristics, and is well liked by all with whom he comes in contact. He is a member of the Southeast Kansas Medical Society, of which he was formerly president, and also belongs to the Labette County Medical Society. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order.

Dr. Rockhold was joined in marriage, in 1865, with Miss L. E. Nordyke, by whom he has two sons, Henry C., and John R. In politics, he is a strong Republican. He has served on the board of pension examiners for twelve years, and is also county health officer. He served in the city council for eight years, and was elected mayor in the spring of 1899, in which office he displayed much executive ability. His term expired in the spring of 1901.

**C**HARLES BRIGGS MARTIN, the genial separating clerk at the post-office in Parsons, Kansas, has been a resident of the city since 1884, and has had considerable experience in postoffice business. He was born December 23, 1872, at Catskill, Greene county, New York, and is a son of Augustus and Cynthia (Mills) Martin.

Augustus Martin is a member of a company manufacturing fuel in Parsons, with a plant located near the Davison elevator. He is a member of the city council, and takes a great interest in local affairs. He served during the Civil War, in the Union army, and was wounded in the right arm, August 21, 1862, at the crossing of the Rappahannock river. He

was taken to Bellevue Hospital, New York, for treatment, and was discharged as cured December 8, 1862.

Charles B. Martin attended the public schools of his native county, and also the schools of Parsons, Kansas, whither his parents removed in 1884. His first work was in the capacity of a molder at Skelton's foundry, where he worked two years. He then joined a party of surveyors on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, and made the trip through the "Nation," in charge of A. B. Thurston. Returning to Parsons, he entered the government service as sub-mail-carrier, in 1892. In June, of the following year, he was transferred to the clerical department, and acted as general delivery clerk until March, 1894. He was then promoted to be mailing clerk, and made up all outgoing mail,—also separating all incoming mail. Under the Democratic administration, he was "set back" for a short time to general delivery clerk, but in 1896 he was again promoted, and became assistant postmaster under Frank W. Frye. He served also under his successor, H. H. Lusk, who advanced him to his present position as mailing and separating clerk. He works from 7 A. M. to 7:30 P. M.

Mr. Martin was joined in marriage with Amelia Myers, a daughter of W. P. and Elizabeth (Corbett) Myers, that ceremony being performed on June 17, 1894. Mrs. Myers is deceased. Mr. Myers, who is engaged in the transfer business at Parsons, contracted a second matrimonial alliance by wedding Annie L. McKinstry. Five children were the result of this union, namely: Nellie, Luella, Alice, Oscar, and Ethel,—aged, respectively, twenty-four, twenty-two, twenty, seventeen, and thirteen years. Mrs. Martin also has one brother, Ernest Myers, who is a prominent farmer in Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin have one little son, Raymond W., who was born December 25, 1898, and was indeed a blessed Christmas gift. Fraternally, Mr. Martin affiliates with the Knights and Ladies of Security, and the Sons of Veterans, and both he and Mrs. Martin are members of the Knights and Ladies of America. They show a decided preference for the Presbyterian faith. In his political opinions, Mr. Martin is a Republican, and believes the principles of that party to be the most advantageous to the country. He is a capable and trustworthy public servant, and is highly esteemed by his fellow citizens.



HENRY H. TROUTMAN has been a resident of Labette county since 1876, and has been living in Osage township, in section 2, township 31, range 18, for a number of years. He was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, in 1843, and is a son of Samuel and Catherine Troutman.

Samuel Troutman was born in Pennsylvania, in 1820, and his wife was also born in that state, in 1821. They were the parents of 11 children, namely: Henry H.; Augustus, who lives in Pennsylvania; Mary; William; Louisa; Daniel, deceased; Emma; Jennie; Agnes; Ida; and Samuel, deceased.

Henry H. Troutman was a merchant in Pennsylvania for eight years, when he sold out his business, and began farming. He soon sold his farm, and removed to Neosho county, Kansas, where he lived for one year. Subsequently he bought a farm in that county, on which he lived four years. Mr. Troutman then moved to Parsons where he lived one year, and worked in a lumber yard. He then bought a farm in





HON. HENRY G. WEBB.



Osage township, where he has since lived. He has worked hard and long, and has been very successful. He carries on general farming, and raises some stock. He is a good neighbor, and is always ready to lend a helping hand to those who are in need.

Mr. Troutman married Anna Swab, in Pennsylvania, who died in 1897, aged forty-eight years. The subject of this sketch is a member of the Republican party, and takes an active interest in local affairs. He served on the school board for three years. In a religious connection, Mr. Troutman is a member of the Christian church.

**H**ON. HENRY G. WEBB, who has faithfully served in many official capacities of public trust since entering upon his business career, is a lawyer of high legal attainments, and a gentleman whose opinions carry great weight, and are respected throughout Labette county. He has been located in Parsons since January, 1889, and is in partnership with J. W. Iden, which conjunction makes one of the strongest legal firms in this section of Kansas. Judge Webb was born in Ridgeberry township, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and is a son of Hon. John L. Webb.


Hon. John L. Webb was a native of Fairfield county, Connecticut, where he was reared and educated. He moved to Bradford county, Pennsylvania, to begin his active business career, and engaged in contracting and building. He was one of the contractors of the North Branch Canal in Northern Pennsylvania. He was a Democrat and served as county commissioner, sheriff, and filled two terms in the state legislature. He was united in marriage with

Anise Hammond, a native of Chemung county, New York, and they became the parents of seven children, four of whom are still living.

Henry G. Webb was reared to manhood in Pennsylvania. He studied law under the direction of Judge John C. Knox, and in September, 1848, was admitted to the bar at Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. In 1849, he located at Princeton, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in the practice of his profession until 1868; in that year he moved to Mound City, Linn county, Kansas. In the spring of 1870, he located in Oswego, Kansas, and in the fall of the same year was chosen judge of his judicial district, and officiated as such until 1873. He then resigned and formed a partnership with W. B. Glass, which lasted for nine years. He was subsequently associated with L. C. True, for fifteen months, after which he moved to Cherokee county, Kansas. There he resided until January, 1889, when he located in Parsons. He formed a partnership with C. L. Caldwell, which continued until 1893, and later, became a partner of J. N. Iden, with whom he is now associated. He is a man of great experience in matters pertaining to his profession, and has rendered excellent services to the city, as its attorney, the past few years.

Judge Webb was united in marriage, May 20, 1849, to Susan J. Abbott, who died September 3, 1864, leaving a daughter, Emma E., the wife of C. C. Wenzell, of Kansas City. He formed a second union in 1866, Amanda J. Gower becoming his wife. In politics, he is a Republican, and in 1860 was elected to the state legislature of Wisconsin. In 1864, he was elected to the senate of the same state, and was reelected in 1866. In 1876, he was elected to the state legislature of Kansas. Fraternally, Judge Webb was a member of Lodge

No. 33, A. F. & A. M., of Mound City, Kansas. He is now a member of Parsons Lodge. No. 117, A. F. & A. M.; Oswego Chapter, R. A. M.; and Oswego Commandery, K. T. He also belongs to Magnolia Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Mound City, Kansas. A portrait of Judge Webb accompanies this mention.

 AMUEL G. BRYNER, a prominent farmer residing in section 35, Mount Pleasant township, Labette county, Kansas, has for many years been one of the leading agriculturists of the county. He has always been a prominent and influential man, and takes an active interest in the welfare and progress of the township and county in which he resides. Mr. Bryner was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, in 1842, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Hoke) Bryner.

Jacob Bryner was born in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, in 1819, and his death occurred in that county sixty-nine years afterward. His wife, Mary (Hoke) Bryner, was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, in 1820, and died in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, in 1876. They reared the following children: Jerome, deceased; George W., of Juniata county, Pennsylvania; Harriet, deceased; Samuel G., the subject of this sketch; Louis, of Jonesboro, Indiana; William, deceased; and Lydia, of Labette county.

Samuel G. Bryner received his schooling in his native county, and lived in Pennsylvania until 1870, when he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and settled on the farm where he now resides. His life has been spent in business activity, and what he now has is due entirely to his own efforts. He has taken great pride in his farm, and the neat and attractive

appearance it presents bespeaks his thrift and unceasing labor. Mr. Bryner is considered an authority in all matters pertaining to the tilling of the soil, and his advice is freely given to all who seek it.

Mr. Bryner married Margaret Gray, who was born in 1844, in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, and is a daughter of James and Cynthia (Killigore) Gray. James Gray was born in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, in 1791, and died in 1864; his wife was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, in 1808, and her death occurred in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Gray reared the following offspring: Thomas, of California; James, of Pennsylvania; Catherine (Smith), of Waterford, Pennsylvania; Martha (Bender), of Perry county, Pennsylvania; Nancy, deceased; Margaret; Samuel, of Labette county; George W., deceased; and Joseph, of Altamont, Kansas. Mr. Bryner and his wife have been blessed with four children, namely: Wilbert H., of Labette county, who has two boys, Ralph and Harold; Carl, of Missouri; and Della and Louis, of Labette county. Mr. Bryner has been township treasurer for a period of seven years. He has many friends in the community.



WILLIAM GILLIES, foreman of the boiler shops of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, at Parsons, is an expert boiler-maker, having served an apprenticeship in the boiler shops at Vincennes, Indiana, in the "sixties," and has since that time followed his trade, working in various railroad shops.

Our subject was born at Glasgow, Scotland, in 1850, and is a son of William Gillies, Sr., who immigrated to America with his fam-

ily, in 1852. He located first at Detroit, Michigan, and later at Marshall, Michigan, where his son, William, supplemented his elementary schooling with a course in the Marshall High School. In 1865, the elder Gillies removed his family to Vincennes, Indiana. He died in 1893, aged seventy-eight years.

After completing his apprenticeship at Vincennes, Mr. Gillies moved to Aurora, Indiana, in 1870, and engaged as foreman for the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad Company, now the Baltimore & Ohio South-Western. He worked there a short time, then moved to Seymour, Indiana, as foreman, where he remained until 1877. He then came to Kansas, and worked a short time at Parsons. He next took charge of a boiler room in Texas, and subsequently went to McComb, Mississippi, to assume the supervision of a boiler department for the Illinois Central Railroad Company. In May, 1883, he returned to Parsons, at once becoming foreman of the boiler shops of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, which position he still ably fills. Mr. Gillies has about 35 men under his supervision. All heavy work on boilers is done in the shops, and preparations are being made to do all boiler work in the new building at Parsons.

Mr. Gillies was married in Sedalia, Missouri, to Caroline McDonald, a lady of Scotch descent. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Gillies are: W. R., a graduate of the Parsons High School, and a machinist of Shreveport, Louisiana; Hugh A., a graduate of the Parsons High School, and a machinist's apprentice at the "Katy" shops; Celesta, also a graduate of the Parsons High School, who is at home; Nellie, who is in the graduating class of the High School; and Carrie and Ray, who are at home.

Mr. Gillies is an unswerving Republican,

and is a member of the board of education at Parsons. Fraternally, he is a member of the A. O. U. W.; M. W. of A.; Triple Tie; K. O. T. M., of which he is past state commander; and of the I. O. O. F. since 1866. He accepts the doctrines of the Presbyterian church as the ground of his religious belief.



MICHAEL CARR GAFFEY, city engineer of Parsons, Kansas, was born in Randolph county, Indiana, February 11, 1854, and is a son of Bryan and Margaret (Carr) Gaffey, natives of Ireland, the former coming from County Roscommon, the latter from County Galway.

Bryan Gaffey was a sailor in his boyhood. He came to America about 1848, and located in Massachusetts, where he was married to Margaret Carr. They moved to Winchester, Indiana, in the winter of 1853-54, before the subject hereof was born. The father engaged in railroad work for some time, after which he began farming near the town. He is now at the advanced age of ninety years, and resides at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Julia Hurley, of Indianapolis, Indiana. His wife died in Indiana, in August, 1891, aged sixty-six years. Bryan Gaffey and his wife were parents of eight children, the birth of the first two having occurred in Massachusetts; they were: Mary, who died in infancy; John, deceased at the age of forty-two years; Michael Carr, the subject of this narrative; Thomas, a printer by trade, who died at the home of his brother, Michael, in November, 1900; Julia (Hurley), of Indianapolis, Indiana; Ella (Franks), of Des Moines, Iowa; Eliza (McNirney), of Anderson, Indiana; and William, a traveling man.

Michael C. Gaffey attended the common schools of Indiana, and later was a student at Asbury College, now known as DePauw University. After leaving this institution, Mr. Gaffey taught school seven winters, and maintained his studies as he could. He left home at fifteen years of age, and made his way in the world. He began as assistant with Phoenix Pomeroy, a county surveyor and city engineer, who subsequently turned his instruments and work over to Mr. Gaffey, who occupied the position until 1886. Mr. Gaffey also conducted a livery business from 1882 to 1886, having traded a farm for a barn and stock in Winchester, Indiana. In 1886 Mr. Gaffey came to Kansas, looked over the country, worked five months for the city of Parsons, and was engaged at Pittsburg, Erie, and other points, until January 19, 1889. He was then appointed to his present position as city engineer, succeeding Mr. Courtney.

Mr. Gaffey was united in marriage with Eliza Brooks, a daughter of Milton and Amanda (Bell) Brooks, who was born near Richmond, Indiana, in 1859. The wedding ceremony, which has a touch of romance about it, occurred while the young lady was attending college at Danville, Indiana. At the dinner hour, the young couple were made one, after which the bride resumed her studies. Six children were born to Mr. Gaffey and his estimable wife, namely: Narcissa; Troy M.; Edna; Willie, deceased; Margaret; and Jonas S.

Mrs. Gaffey's parents are dead. She was the third in a family of eight children, as follows: William, who died in infancy; Ada, Mrs. Dr. Leslie Deweese, of Indianapolis, Indiana; Eliza; David, a railway mail-clerk, of Indiana; Charles, a railroad engineer, residing at Moberly, Missouri; Belle, who is single, and resides with the family of Dr. Deweese; Frank,

a railroad conductor in Texas; and Howard, a farmer in Indiana.

Mr. Gaffey has a fine home at 1714 Crawford avenue, and also owns another house near by, which he rents. He also buys and feeds horses at his private barn. He has a successful trade, and is greatly pleased with his home. Politically, he has always acted with the Republicans, having cast his first vote for President Rutlerford B. Hayes. Fraternally, Mr. Gaffey is a member of the M. W. of A., of Parsons; he was formerly a member of the K. of P. He and his wife are members of the Knights and Ladies of Security. In religious belief, Mr. Gaffey's parents were Catholics, but his views are liberal. Mrs. Gaffey is a Quaker, her people being identified with the Society of Friends.

**L**EWIS HUDSON, a prominent conductor running both local and extra passenger trains out of Parsons, Kansas, on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, is a native of Virginia, having been born in Lynchburg, May 28, 1844. His father, William Hudson, is deceased, and his mother died when Lewis was but an infant. He has one sister, Mrs. Mary Montgomery, who is a resident of Louisville, Kentucky. William Hudson, although not particularly active in politics, was a staunch Whig.

After the death of his mother, Lewis Hudson lived with his paternal grandmother in Virginia, until he attained the age of eleven years. He then went to live with his father, who had married a second time. When thirteen or fourteen years old, he ran away from home, and has made his way in the world ever since. He had limited educational advantages, and worked nights and mornings for several

months, in order to pay for his board while he obtained a little schooling; he gladly accepted any kind of work he could obtain.

In 1874, he began his railroad career, first working on the Vandalia line of the Pennsylvania Railroad system, upon which he was employed seven years. Within nine months, he was promoted to be a conductor, having first been examined by the general manager at St. Louis, Missouri. That gentleman gave him a letter of recommendation to the train master at Terre Haute, Indiana, who assigned him to a train. He was first placed in charge of a bridge train; and assisted in building bridges all over the system; he continued to run bridge trains during the summers, and through freight trains during winters for the next three years. Afterwards, he worked in a similar capacity for the Indianapolis, Decatur & Springfield Railway Company.

In 1881, Mr. Hudson accepted a position on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, as extra conductor under Train Master H. Wagner. He was placed on local passenger and through freight service from Parsons, Kansas. Several years later, he left that road and for two years ran a steam-shovel excavator on the Indianapolis, Decatur & Springfield Railway,—working mainly in Illinois. Returning to Parsons, he again entered the service of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, under Superintendent Welch, for whom he has worked for the past fourteen years,—first running freight trains, and later, both local and extra passenger trains, out of Parsons. This last position he has maintained up to the present writing, and is one of the most reliable and trustworthy conductors on the system.

Mr. Hudson was united in marriage with Jennie Gilispie, of Tuscola, Illinois. They have reared one son, Charles, who is now twen-

ty-one years old, and who intends to follow a railroad life. He was given a thorough course in the Parsons Commercial College.

Politically, Mr. Hudson is a Republican, and believes the principles of that party to be right. He stands high in fraternal circles, affiliating with the blue lodge and chapter of the Masonic order, of Parsons, the A. O. U. W., and Division No. 161, O. R. C., of Parsons, having held office in the last named order.

Mrs. Hudson's father and mother make their home with the subject hereof and his wife, who have a fine, large residence at No. 1824 Crawford avenue. The family favor the M. E. church, to the support of which they contribute; they also occupy a high position from a social standpoint. Such is the career of a man who has made himself what he is by his industry, self reliance and fidelity to the obligations of his chosen occupation. His unqualified success is well deserved.



JAMES W. TERRELL. Among the many worthy citizens and prominent railroad men of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, the name of J. W. Terrell, a competent engineer on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway should not be omitted. Mr. Terrell is a son of C. A. and Louisa F. (Jones) Terrell. His father was a native of Ohio, and followed farming for many years. Later in life he became an insurance agent, and his death occurred November 22, 1897, at Parsons, Kansas. His mother, who was a native of Vigo county, Indiana, contracted a second marriage, and is now the wife of Rev. Frank Foley, a Christian minister, and resides near McCune, Kansas.

Mr. Terrell is one of four children, namely,



Mollie, James W., John A., and Ella. Mollie married Engineer Anderson, of Parsons. John A. is married and has two children; he is in the employ of Armour & Company, and resides in Kansas City. Ella married a Mr. Wilcock, who is a valve-maker in the air-brakes room of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway shops, and resides at 2316 Durr avenue, Parsons.

James W. Terrell was united in marriage with Anna Hickson, who was born in Highland county, Ohio, in 1868. She is one of eight children, three of whom died young. The beloved mother is also deceased, having passed away in October, 1894. The other children grew to maturity and became useful citizens. Besides Mrs. Terrell, there are the following: Charles, H. F., Lizzie, and Ruth. Charles Hickson is a prominent farmer, residing nine miles east of Parsons. Prof. H. F. Hickson (deceased) was an instructor in Parsons College for several years; he subsequently edited the *Labor Advocate* at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, for about three years, being thus engaged when cut off by death, November 23, 1894. Lizzie Hickson married a Mr. Deter, and was a resident of Culver, Missouri, up to the time of her death, in June, 1897. Ruth Hickson married Mr. Stemple, a farmer near Parsons, and died in 1892.

Mr. and Mrs. Terrell have four children, all attending school, namely: Mabel, Mina, Frances, and Frank H. Mr. Terrell owns a fine residence property at 2329 Durr avenue, where is gathered a bright, happy family circle.

James W. Terrell was born April 26, 1860, in Vigo county, Indiana, and was educated in his native state, where he remained until he was fourteen years old. He then came west to Neosho county, Kansas, and was engaged in farm work until he attained his majority,

working in Union School District, No. 38. In choosing a career for himself, he showed a decided preference for railroad life, and accordingly moved to Parsons, Kansas, in the spring of 1882. Two weeks later, on March 14th, he entered the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, and has spent his undivided time upon that system ever since. He first worked as night caller at the roundhouse under W. T. Small and Foreman J. H. Reilly, ex-senator, who is now an engineer on the same system. March 22, 1883, Mr. Terrell commenced work as fireman, and worked in that capacity for Engineer Frank Baliss on engine No. 101. For a short time he was extra fireman, mainly on the Cherokee and Junction City divisions. Later he served one year and a half as fireman for Charles Fletcher, and afterward for C. L. Anderson and Engineer Reilly, working under the latter gentleman three and a half years.

Promotion followed and Mr. Terrell became an engineer. After serving as hostler for three months, he ran as extra engineer for six weeks, and November 11, 1891, he was advanced to road service. His trial trip was made with Engineer Tierney, who recommended him for proficiency, and he was given an engine. His initial trip was made from Muskogee to Parsons,—a distance of 117 miles, which he covered in four hours and two minutes.

All has not been plain sailing with Mr. Terrell, who has had more than his share of accidents with which to contend. On July 6, 1892, while going north with a train-load of stock and silver ore, pulled by engine No. 120, his train ran into a cow, and the engine was ditched. In his efforts to save himself, Mr. Terrell jumped down an embankment, but sustained injuries which kept him from work for



eleven months. He has also had one head-end collision. This occurred September 3, 1897, and was caused by the supposed negligence of a brakeman, in leaving a switch open. Mr. Terrell was considerably injured; he had two ribs crushed and the muscles torn from one arm, on account of which he was off the road for six months.

He now pulls through freight from Muskogee to Parsons and Kansas City, in the chain gang, and is regarded as one of the most promising and successful young engineers on the system. In politics he is a Populist, and uses his vote and influence toward advancing the interests of that party. He stands high in fraternal circles, being a member of Division No. 179, B. of L. E.; Great Western Lodge, No. 24, B. of L. F.; and of the Order of Chosen Friends,—his wife was formerly a member of the auxiliary lodge. The family favor the doctrines laid down by the United Brethren church.



**B**EERI L. DENNISON, who is an architect and builder of great prominence in Labette county, Kansas, is also engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock raising, and is located in section 11, Mount Pleasant township. He was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1837, and is a son of Alexander H. and Charlotte (Huntley) Dennison.

Alexander H. Dennison was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1811, and died in Lewis county, New York, in 1896. He married Charlotte Huntley, who was born, in 1813, in Herkimer county, New York, and died in 1898, in Lewis county, New York. Their union resulted in the following offspring: Beeri L.; Amelia (Williams), of Washington county,

Kansas; Almon A., of Lewis county, New York; Zilpha, Samuel, Emily, Harriet, and Angeline, deceased; and Frankie (Gummer-son); of St. Joseph, Missouri.

Beeri L. Dennison resided in his native county until 1863, when he enlisted in a regiment of New York Heavy Artillery, for service in the Civil war. He became a non-commissioned officer and was mustered out in 1865. He returned to Herkimer county, New York, where he remained until 1868, and then moved to Jackson, Michigan. In 1879 he moved to Neosho, Missouri, and there resided until 1890, when he settled in Labette county, Kansas, locating on his present farm in section 11, Mount Pleasant township. He has been very successful in agricultural pursuits, and has also raised stock quite extensively. For a number of years he has been an architect, and has been occupied in contracting and building. In this line he has attained a wide reputation, and is well and favorably known throughout the county. He is a man of high character, and enjoys the friendship of all with whom he has come in contact, both in a business and social way.

Mr. Dennison was united in marriage with Alice H. Peak, who was born in Montgomery county, New York, in 1851, and is a daughter of Daniel and Clara (Sanders) Peak. Her father was born in Montgomery county, New York, in 1824, and died in Jackson, Michigan, in 1899. Her mother was born in Saratoga county, New York, in 1825, and is now living in Jackson, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Peak had the following children: Charles, a resident of Jackson, Michigan; Lottie (Wake-man); Alice; Libby, deceased; and George and Jesse, twins,—living in Jackson, Michigan.

The subject of this sketch and his worthy wife are parents of the following children:

Alvin H., of Labette county, who has two children,—Mabel and Harold; Hattie (Burns), who has three children.—Claude, Clarence, and Gail; George J. W., of Labette county, Kansas; Caddie; and Orra, deceased.

**I**RVIN W. FOSTER, one of the most highly respected citizens and well known farmers of Fairview township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Clinton county, Illinois, in 1844, and is a son of William H. and Mary J. (Low) Foster.

William H. Foster, the father of Irvin W., was born in Georgia, in 1804, and moved to Clinton county, Illinois, where he lived until 1851. He then moved to Marion county, Illinois, where he died in 1858. His wife, Mary Low Foster, was born in Washington county, Illinois, in 1806, and her death occurred there, in 1869. They reared the following offspring: George, William, John, and Jennie (Nicolls), deceased; Elizabeth (Nicolls), of Patoka, Illinois; Jackson, a resident of Illinois; Henry C., of Marion county, Illinois; Irvin W.; Scott, of Marion county; and Pamela, deceased.

Irvin W. Foster, the subject of this biography, was educated in Clinton county, Illinois, and moved with his parents, in 1851, to Marion county, where he remained until 1876. He then located in Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, where he lived until 1879, and then moved to Labette township. In 1882 Mr. Foster located on his present farm in section 6, Fairview township, where he is engaged in general farming. His farm presents an attractive appearance, and shows the thrifty management of its owner.

Mr. Foster married Mary E. Wall, who

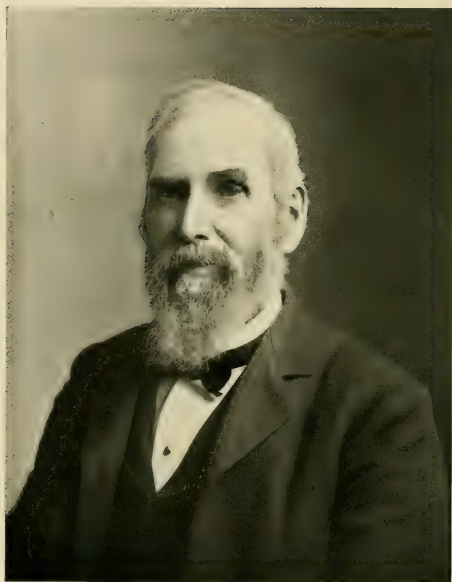
was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in 1860, and is a daughter of Samuel and Barbara (Acker) Wall. Samuel Wall was also a native of Harrisburg, where he was born in 1833; he died in Labette county, Kansas, in 1879. His wife, a native of Harrisburg, was born in 1834, and is now living in the family of the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have had six children: Lee F. and Anna, of Labette county; Charles, deceased; and Edgar M., Claude R. and Nellie B., of Labette county. The family is well known in the community. Mr. Foster is a Republican, in politics, and belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association. In 1864 he enlisted in Company E, 136th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., served under General Payne, and was mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, in October, of the same year. Mr. Foster and his family are members of the Presbyterian church.



**A.** WILKIN, a well known lawyer of Labette county, Kansas, is also engaged in the abstract business in Oswego and Parsons, and during his residence in the county has always lived in the former city. He has been located in this county since March 6, 1870, and has a good clientage.

Mr. Wilkin was born in Edgar county, Illinois, in 1854, and removed to Kansas when he was fourteen years old,—first locating at Fort Scott and afterward settling in Oswego. He studied law under the direction of Hon. David Kelso, then of Oswego, now of Leavenworth, Kansas, and was admitted to the bar in 1878. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession, in partnership with Jesse Brockway. He was subsequently asso-





ARD H. ELLIS.

ciated with F. A. Bettis for a few years, and then with J. S. Waters. In 1873 the firm of C. A. Wilkin & Company, abstracters and title examiners, was established. The firm has two offices,—one in Oswego and another at Parsons,—and possesses the only complete set of abstract books in the county. As before mentioned, Mr. Wilkin has always resided in Oswego, where he still practices law, in addition to the abstract business. He has been very successful in both branches of his work, and is one of the substantial citizens of the city.

Mr. Wilkin was united in marriage, in 1883, with Francis Tiffany, by whom he has three children, as follows: Maggie, Josie; and Fred. Fraternally, he is a member of Adams Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 63; Oswego Chapter, R. A. M., No. 15; and of the Knight Templar Commandery, in which he has served as eminent commander for three years. He is also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In politics, he is a Republican.

**A**RD H. ELLIS, a prominent business man of Parsons, Kansas, where he has been located since 1877, is president of the firm of Ellis & Martin, leading furniture dealers of the city. He was born at Willstown, Alabama, in 1829, and is a son of Prof. Sylvester and Sarah (Hoyt) Ellis.

Prof. Sylvester Ellis was a native of Vermont, and was born in 1798. He was a teacher by profession, and followed that occupation throughout his active business life. He went to Willstown, Alabama, as a missionary teacher among the Cherokee Indians, and in 1832 settled in Ross county, Ohio, where he resided until 1842; he then moved to Indiana, and lived

near Indianapolis until 1856. He next located at Vinton, Iowa, and resided there until a short time before his death. He died in Wabash, Indiana, in 1891. He married Sarah Hoyt, a daughter of Rev. Ard Hoyt, a native of New England. She was born in 1795 and died in 1869. They reared the following children: Charles S., deceased; Anna, deceased; Cornelius, who now resides at Vinton, Iowa; Ard H., the subject of this sketch; Levi, deceased; Milo D., deceased; and Darius H., deceased.

Ard H. Ellis received his mental training in the schools of Ohio and Indiana, and followed the trade of a carpenter from early manhood until 1865. He was then associated with his brother, Cornelius, in a lumber yard at Vinton, Iowa, which they established and conducted until 1876. He then sold his interest to his brother, and located in Parsons, January 25, 1877. In July of the same year, he bought out the furniture store of Wilson & Scarlet, which he operated under the name of A. H. Ellis & Company, until 1882. In the last named year, he took in a Mr. Thornton, and the firm name became Ellis & Thornton, which partnership continued until 1888, when the style was again changed to A. H. Ellis & Company. In 1890, W. H. Martin acquired an interest in the business, and since that date the firm has been Ellis & Martin. They not only conduct a large furniture establishment, but also do undertaking. They receive the patronage of the leading citizens of the community, and the concern ranks among the leading business houses of Parsons. Mr. Ellis is also a stockholder and director of the Parsons State Bank.

In 1856, Mr. Ellis was united in marriage with Miss P. P. Conant, a native of Vermont. Politically, he is a Republican. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he

has been an elder since his arrival in Parsons. A portrait of Mr. Ellis accompanies this mention of his life.

---

**E**DWIN B. MORGAN, a prosperous young lawyer of Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, has recently rounded out a successful term as city attorney, an office to which he was elected in the spring of 1900. His ability in his profession is universally recognized and he has handled the legal affairs of the city in a most capable manner and to the entire satisfaction of the general public.

Mr. Morgan was born in Pike county, Ohio, December 17, 1873, and is a son of Robert and Maria A. (Daniels) Morgan. His father was a native of Pennsylvania but moved to Pike county, Ohio, when a boy. He was a farmer by occupation and followed farming in that county until his death, at the age of fifty-seven years. His widow now resides at Mound Valley, Kansas. They had five children: Marcus, who resides at Mound Valley, Kansas; Thomas, who is in Ohio; John B. and Charles K., deceased; and Edwin B.

Edwin B. Morgan received his early mental training in the public schools of Pike county, Ohio, after which he attended high school at Wetmore, Ohio, and at Pleasanton, Kansas, whither he moved in 1892. He began teaching school in 1893, and continued until 1896, when he determined to enter the legal profession. He then took a course of lectures in the law department of the University of Kansas, at Lawrence, from which institution he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, in 1898. He immediately thereafter began practice at Oswego, with Hon. Nelson

Case,—remaining with the Judge until the spring of 1900, since which time he has practiced alone. He is local manager of the Oswego Telephone Company, and has served as such since November, 1899. He is an enthusiastic Republican, in politics, and has campaigned for the party since he has been in this county. He was elected to the office of city attorney in the spring of 1900, and discharged the duties of that office in a most satisfactory manner. His term expired in April, 1901. He was made a member of the county central committee of his party for the years 1900 and 1901. He has attained the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens, and has many friends throughout the county.

Mr. Morgan was married August 1, 1899, to Florence O. Skinner, of Oswego, a daughter of Amos and Mary (Bird) Skinner. Mr. Skinner is a contractor and builder, of Oswego, Kansas. Religiously, Mr. Morgan and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church.

---

**F**RED PERKINS, one of the best known business men of Labette county, Kansas, is president of the Oswego State Bank, and has been engaged in negotiating farm loans for the past twenty years. He is an extensive land owner, and has some of the finest farms in the Neosho bottom.

Mr. Perkins was born at Becket, Massachusetts, in 1845, and is a son of C. O. and Joanna Sarepta (Snow) Perkins. His father was a native of Massachusetts and lived there all his life, although he spent a considerable portion of his time in Oswego, engaged in the loan business. He died at the age of sixty-seven years. He married Joanna Sarepta



Snow, who died at an early age. Their union resulted in the birth of one child, Fred, whose name appears at the head of these lines.

Fred Perkins received his primary schooling in his native town and took an academic course at Wilbraham, Massachusetts, after which he spent a year in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. He then returned to the East, and in 1868 went west to Bolivar, Missouri, where he was located on a ranch for a period of two years. In 1870 he moved to Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, and engaged in farming and stock raising with great success. For several years past he has had the finest herd of Hereford cattle in Southern Kansas, and was the first to introduce that breed in this section of the state. He is an extensive land owner and possesses some fine land in the Neosho bottom, made valuable by his perfect system of tiling which he also introduced in this vicinity. He was one of the organizers of the Oswego State Bank, in 1888, and has since served as one of its directors. He was elected to the office of president in 1893, the duties of which position he has since discharged in a most capable manner. By efficient management the bank has been made one of the leading financial institutions of this part of the state, and it enjoys a liberal patronage from the leading citizens. Mr. Perkins has been engaged in the farm and loan business for about twenty years and has been financial agent of the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company for Southern Kansas and Southern Missouri,—placing all of that company's loans in this territory.

Mr. Perkins was united in marriage in 1869 with Mary E. May, of Woodstock, Connecticut, and they are the parents of three children, as follows: Charles S., Kate S., and Elizabeth M. Charles S. was educated in the Os-

wego High School and the State Normal School, at Emporia, and is now engaged in business with his father; he married Eleanor Allen, by whom he has two children,—Clinton and William Fred. Kate S. and Elizabeth M. were educated at the Oswego College for Young Ladies, from which they graduated. Fraternally, the subject of this sketch is a member of the blue lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Chapter No. 15, R. A. M.; and Commandery No. 7, K. T. Politically, he favors the principles of the Republican party.

---

**J**AMES EMERY, an engineer in the service of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, has been a resident of Kansas since 1875. He was born in Lancastershire, England, February 22, 1857, and is a son of James and Mary (Vaughn) Emery.

James Emery, Sr., who was a native of England, in the early part of 1857 sailed for America, and landed at New York City. His family joined him in May of the same year, and for twelve years they made their home in Schenectady, New York, where Mr. Emery carried on farming. In 1867 they moved to Illinois, and located 12 miles north of Aurora, on the Fox river. Mr. Emery was engaged in farming there until May, 1869, when he moved to Kansas, making the journey by wagon, overland. En route he became acquainted with some friends of the Clark family, and was induced to look over the land in Labette county. Mr. Emery bought a claim 12 miles west of Oswego, on Hackberry creek. He subsequently sold this, and bought a farm on the edge of Neosho township, which, also, he disposed of afterward. He moved to Webb

City, Missouri, where he and his wife died. They had five children, namely: Mary, the wife of Jerry Robinette, a farmer near Parsons; James, the subject of this sketch; Alfred, who is mining near Webb City, Missouri, and has three children; Charles; and Sarah (Harker), of Topeka, Kansas.

The subject of this sketch moved to Parsons, where he worked on Charles W. Bennett's farm, and later was engaged with V. J. Knapp at like work. He then entered the service of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, being employed in the roundhouse. This was in the spring of 1880; after working in the roundhouse for nine months, he was given a position as fireman, which he filled for fourteen months. Mr. Emery was then promoted to be an engineer, August 5, 1882, and ran a work and coal train on the Choctaw division until August, 1886. After being transferred to Parsons, he was placed on construction work for ten days, and pulled extra freight for two years. Then he was assigned to a regular run, on engine No. 305. He ran No. 124 for nine years, and in May, 1899, he took charge of a regular passenger run from Parsons to Muskogee, on trains Nos. 1 and 2. Mr. Emery has had a very successful railroad career, having escaped injury and having lost no time on account of accidents.

Mr. Emery married Belle O'Hara, in the Indian Territory. She was born in Kentucky, in 1862, and is a daughter of C. W. and Nannie O'Hara, who were both natives of Kentucky. She was one of five children, the others being: Maggie (Blackmore); Mrs. E. A. Berry, who lives in South McAlester, Indian Territory; Mrs. E. W. Berry, of Kansas City, Missouri; and Charles A., deceased. Mrs. O'Hara is now sixty-five years old, and lives with Mr. Emery and his wife. Mr. and Mrs.

Emery have no children of their own, but have reared two daughters of Mrs. Blackmore.

Mr. Emery is a member of the Republican party. He joined the Masonic order at Savanna, Indian Territory, and was made a Knight Templar at Parsons. He and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star and of the Fraternal Aid Association. Mr. Emery is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Division No. 179, of Parsons. He is at present chairman of the local board of adjustment. Mrs. Emery is a member of the Grand International Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. The subject of this sketch and his wife attend the Methodist church.



H. WARNER, a well known farmer living in section 30, township 34, range 21, Richland township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Union township, Delaware county, Indiana, in 1845. He is a son of Elias and Celinda (Pierce) Warner.

Elias Warner was a farmer by occupation, and died in Indiana, in 1864. His wife also died in that state. They reared the following children: John F., who is in the state of Washington; Elmira (Gustin), who lives in Missouri; Mary (Moffett), who lives in Indiana; T. H.; Rebecca, the wife of Felix Frazee, of Indiana; and Josephine (Constantine), whose husband is a railroad man in Indianapolis, Indiana.

T. H. Warner was reared and educated in Indiana, where he remained until he was twenty-four years old. In the fall of 1869, in company with his wife and one child, he settled in Labette county, Kansas. He was





RESIDENCE OF LOWELL C. GREEN.

a poor man, and his success has been due entirely to his own efforts. He entered a claim three miles west of his present farm, where he lived for a period of seven years. He then sold this farm, and bought his present one in section 30, in Richland township. This was originally deeded to Charles Quinby, from whom Mr. Warner bought the place. Mr. Warner has made many fine improvements on it, and now has 80 acres of farming land. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and has set out a number of grove and fruit trees. Mr. Warner has worked with untiring energy, and has never been assisted in any way; his success, therefore, is all of his own making. He is a good neighbor, and a public spirited citizen, and is highly respected in the community.

Mr. Warner married Lucinda Graves, who is a native of Indiana. They have three children, namely: Walter, who operates a threshing machine, and is unmarried; Otis, who married Annie Berkman, and is a farmer near Oswego; and Joseph, who is at home, and teaches in District No. 70. Mr. Warner was formerly a Democrat, but now votes an independent ticket.

---

**L**OWELL C. GREEN has been one of the most prominent farmers of Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, since 1892, and is one of the most successful agriculturists and stock raisers of the community.

Mr. Green was born in Lake county, Ohio, in 1845, and is a son of Ebenezer and Polly (Tallman) Green. His father was born in Lake county, Ohio, in 1798, and resided there until 1856, when he removed to Union county,

Ohio, where he died in 1862. He and his worthy wife became the parents of seven children, as follows: Amos, deceased; Laura M., deceased; Lewis, who resides in Vermilion county, Illinois; Marietta, deceased; Martha, deceased; Harriet (Boyd); and Lowell C., the subject hereof.

Lowell C. Green remained in his native county until he was ten years old, when he removed with his parents to Union county, Ohio. He received a primary education in the common schools of Union county, and resided on the farm with his father until he was eighteen years of age. He then enlisted in Company H, 82d Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., November 23, 1863, and was attached to the Army of the Tennessee, under "Fighting Joe" Hooker, participating in the battles of Resaca, Buzzard's Roost, and Peach Tree Creek. He was taken prisoner at Blackville, and confined in Libby Prison for ninety days, when he was paroled and sent to Camp Chase, at Columbus, Ohio, where he was mustered out in June, 1865. He immediately returned to his home in Union county, Ohio, and in the fall of 1865 went to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he rented a farm for one year. In 1866 he journeyed west, to Denver, Colorado, and spent two years prospecting in the mountains in that state. In 1868 he returned to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm of 400 acres, upon which he resided until 1892, when he moved to Labette county, Kansas. He bought and located upon a tract of 640 acres of land lying in sections 29 and 33, in Oswego township, and during his nine years residence upon it has been extensively engaged in farming and in breeding and raising standard-bred horses. Among his stallions are Prince Alcyon, 3076, and Alcy Green, 34304. The former was foaled in 1894 and was bred by

L. W. Green, of Indianola, Illinois. The latter, also bred by L. W. Green, was foaled in 1897, and can trot and pace better than 2:30 without handling. Mr. Green has been exceedingly successful in his work, and is one of the substantial men of the township.

Mr. Green was united in marriage at the age of twenty-four years, with Lucinda Fisher, whose parents resided in Vermilion county, Illinois, and they became the parents of the following children: Fred, deceased; Fay; David; Mary, deceased; Lydia; Lowell, Jr.; and Maude. In religious belief Mrs. Green is a member of the M. E. church. Socially Mr. Green is a member of the I. O. O. F., of Sidell, Illinois. He is also a member of the G. A. R. Post, of Oswego, and of the M. W. of A. In political belief he is a staunch Republican, and while in Illinois held several township offices. A view of Mr. Green's residence accompanies this sketch.



YRUS C. RICHART, deceased, was one of the prosperous pioneer farmers of Labette county, Kansas, where he took up his residence in the spring of 1867. He was born in Akron, Ohio, January 5, 1838, and was a son of Thomas and Armina (Capron) Richart.

Thomas Richart was a native of Holland; in 1825, when a lad of fourteen years, he embarked for the United States, and upon his arrival located in Scranton, Pennsylvania, where he followed his trade as a marble cutter. When nineteen years old, he wedded Armina Capron, of Brattleboro, Vermont, and they lived in Scranton until 1837, when he changed his place of residence to Akron, Ohio. There he remained until 1845, when he moved to


Hancock county, Illinois, where he passed from this life in 1893, aged eighty-two years. His wife followed him just ten days later, aged seventy-nine years. To them were born the following children: Oscar, deceased; Cyrus, deceased; Nelson, of Chicago, Illinois; and George, also of Chicago.

Cyrus C. Richart was seven years old when his parents moved from Akron to Hancock county, Illinois, where he attended the district schools. At the age of eighteen years, he entered the college at Canton, Missouri, where he spent three years. In 1858, he accompanied his father to Pikes Peak, Colorado, and they spent three years in that state. Upon his return, he enlisted, in May, 1862, as a private in Company H, 78th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. He served under Generals Thomas, Rosecrans and Sherman, and was with General Sherman on his march to the sea. He participated in 21 engagements and was mustered out as fifth sergeant. Returning to Hancock county, Illinois, he was wedded to Lydia M. Phillips, on November 25, 1865, and they lived in that county until August 10, 1866, when they settled in Linn county, Kansas, where they spent just one year. They then moved to Labette county, and settled upon the northwest quarter of section 28, Oswego township, where the family has resided ever since. Mr. Richart was very prosperous in his undertakings, and established a reputation as a conscientious, loyal and enterprising citizen. He passed to the unknown beyond on November 1, 1894, and his death was deeply deplored by all who knew him.

Mr. and Mrs. Richart were the parents of the following children: William T., who was born at Mound City, Kansas, in 1866, wedded Ida Wimp, and has a child, Fay; Charles C., who married Alice Parnell, and has two chil-



dren,—Phyllis and Russell; May, born in Oswego, Kansas, November 4, 1871; George, born June 5, 1873; Robert E., born May 7, 1875; and Bessie, born in Oswego, Kansas, January 25, 1885. Mrs. Richart was born in Champaign county, Illinois, August 11, 1840. When she was three years old, her parents moved to Hancock county, Illinois, and there they lived until she had attained the age of nineteen years. In 1859, they removed to Lyon county, Kansas, and in 1860, to Linn county, Kansas, where they spent five years. Returning to Hancock county, Illinois, she was married to Mr. Richart, as previously stated.


ILLIAM C. ONDLER, living on the southwest quarter of section 9, is one of the prosperous and well-to-do farmers of Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas. He was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1856, and is a son of Philip and Sally (Sherrets) Ondler.

Philip Ondler was a native of France, and was born in 1833. He came to America in 1847, settling in Tuscarawas county, Ohio. In 1872, he moved to Linn county, Iowa, where he now resides. Mr. Ondler and his wife had 13 children, as follows: William, the subject of this sketch; Leroy; Ira E.; Madison; John; Lewis, deceased; Harley; Fred; Matilda; Mahala; Cora; Rhoda; and Grace, deceased.

William C. Ondler moved with his parents to Linn county, Iowa, in 1864, and there obtained an elementary primary education. He was married in 1876, and continued to live in Linn county until 1891, when he moved to Wright county, and remained there one year. From Wright county he went to Osceola county, Iowa, where he was engaged in the livery

business four years. During all this time, however, he was also occupied in farming and stock raising. In 1896 Mr. Ondler sold out all his interests in Iowa, and moved to Labette county, Kansas, where he bought his present home in the southwest quarter of section 9, Oswego township. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and is very successful.

Mr. Ondler was united in marriage with Maria Fairchild, who was born in Linn county, Iowa, in 1853, and is a daughter of John and Sarah (Ellis) Fairchild. John Fairchild was born in 1832, and is still living in Iowa. His wife was born in 1846, and died in 1883. Mrs. Ondler, whose death occurred March 26, 1897, was the mother of nine children, namely: Charles, deceased; Ella; Elsie; Effie; Eva; Ethel; Eula; Cecil; and Cloyd. On April 29, 1900, Mr. Ondler married, for his second wife, Mrs. Nora Smith, of Indiana, who by a former marriage with James Smith had become the mother of five children, as follows: Bruce C., Samuel C., James F., Michael, and Rosa. Mr. Ondler is a staunch Republican in politics, and an active worker in his party.

R. WILLIAM H. BELT, one of the progressive farmers of Labette county, Kansas, has for many years been a leading physician of the county, where he is known as a gentleman of high standing. Prior to moving on his present farm, on section 5, Oswego township, north of the city, Dr. Belt had been practicing medicine and was engaged in the drug business in Labette county, for eighteen years. His reputation is well established, and he has been very successful in all his undertakings. Dr. Belt was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, in

1846, and is a son of John F. and Mary H. (Wilson) Belt.

John F. Belt was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, in 1821, and lived on the old homestead until his death, which occurred in 1891. He owned the Upper Blue Lick Springs, one of the finest mineral springs in the South. Mary (Wilson) Belt, his wife, was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, in 1830, and died on the home place at Blue Lick Springs, in 1885. Her children were: William H.; Sally (Shrout), of Oswego; Annie (Maguire), of Oswego; Elizabeth, deceased; Amelia (Wilson), of Covington, Kentucky; Joseph, deceased; Maggie (Marley), of Oswego; and Ada (Smith), of Iola, Kansas.

Dr. William H. Belt attended the schools of his native county, and from 1863 to 1865 was a student in Flemingsburg College. The following two years were spent at the Medical University, of Louisville, from which he was graduated in 1870. Dr. Belt practiced medicine at Blue Lick Springs for three years, and in 1873 located in Labette county, Kansas, where he continued his practice in Oswego. There, for eighteen years, he also conducted a drug business. He had a large and lucrative practice, and readily won the confidence of all in the community. Dr. Belt bought his present farm in section 5, a mile and a half north of Oswego, in 1891, and since that time has been engaged in general farming and stock raising.

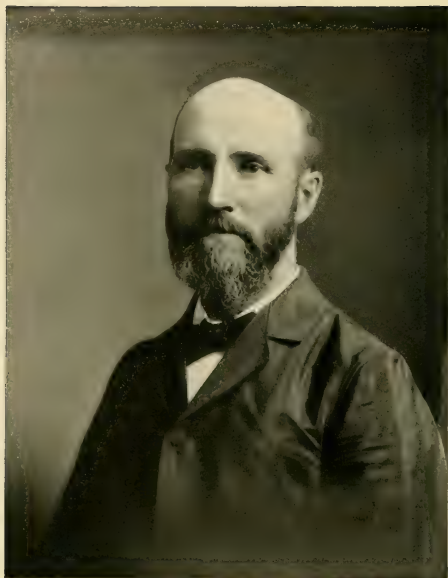
Dr. Belt was united in marriage with Laura J. Carpenter, who was born in Shelbyville, Tennessee, in 1856, and is a graduate of Ward's Seminary, in Nashville, Tennessee. She graduated at the early age of sixteen years. Dr. Belt and his wife are the parents of four children, namely: Robert F., of Coffeyville, Kansas; and Carl S., Wallace H., and Mary, of Oswego. Dr. Belt is a Democrat, in pol-

itics. He and his wife are attendants of the Presbyterian church. Fraternally, the Doctor belongs to the A. F. & A. M., Adams Lodge, No. 63, of Oswego; and also to the chapter.

**G**EORGE W. MOLLENHOUR, one of the leading agriculturists of Richland township, Labette county, Kansas, has been a resident of the county since the spring of 1869. He owns 418 acres of land, and is a prosperous and influential man. He was born in Kosciusko county, Indiana, in 1843, and is a son of John and Margaret (Tester) Mollenhour. John Mollenhour settled in Indiana at a very early day, having been born in Ohio. His father was a native of Germany, and his mother, although of German parentage, was born in Virginia, in 1807, and died at the age of eighty-six years. One brother and three sisters of George W. settled in Labette county. His parents followed him to this county about five years after his arrival, and his father died here in 1875, at the age of sixty-eight years. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Mollenhour, besides the subject of this sketch, Frederick, who died about 1885, was a farmer of Cherokee county, Kansas, but was living at Chetopa, Labette county, at the time of his death; Rebecca (Gordon) is deceased; Sarah (Busick) resides in Richland township; Catherine, a widow, resides in Colorado; and two remained in Indiana, one of whom is deceased.

George W. Mollenhour was reared in Indiana, and in 1863, at the age of twenty years, enlisted in Company E, 138th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served several months, after which he returned to Indiana and there remained until he removed to Kansas. He was not again in





JOHN J. PIERSON.

his native state until 1898, when he visited it, and again in 1900, when he attended the G. A. R. National Encampment at Chicago. He was accompanied to Kansas by a brother-in-law, Mr. Gordon, and when they arrived at the state line, they flipped a coin to see whether they should continue to their destination, or return and go up into Wisconsin, and the toss was in favor of the former course. They located in Labette county in the spring of 1869, having stopped at Oswego in 1868. Mr. Mollenhour located near Chetopa, on his present home farm, in section 32, Richland township, and now owns 418 acres in Labette county, and 178 acres in Cherokee county. His claim was originally acquired by Samuel Quinby. He has a finely improved property, a large house, barns and fine shade trees. He has a good orchard of four acres, and the pines in front of the house were set out by him, being at first covered with gallon crocks to protect them from the sun. When he and his wife commenced housekeeping it was in a small house at the edge of Cherokee county, on the farm where their son, E. L., now lives. He then had two ponies and about \$25, and what he now possesses has been gained by his own industry and careful management. He is one of the prominent farmers of the county, and has a large circle of acquaintances and friends.

Mr. Mollenhour was united in marriage, in Labette county, with Hannah Creekbaum, who was born in Indiana in 1854, and is a daughter of William and Salome Creekbaum. Her father is deceased and her mother still lives; Mr. and Mrs. Creekbaum had eight children, all of whom reside in Labette county, except one, who is in Colorado. Three children were the offspring of Mr. Mollenhour and his wife, namely: Edward L., John W., and Myrtle May. Edward L. was born in Labette county,

in 1873, married Georgia Watson, a daughter of Charles Watson, of Mound Valley, and has one son, George Earl. John W. was born in Cherokee county, in 1874, married Molly Pearson, and has a son, Frederick; they reside on a farm near Floral Hill. Myrtle May was born in 1880, and died at the age of three months. In politics, Mr. Mollenhour has always been a Republican until recent years, and now favors bimetalism. He has been called upon to serve in numerous township offices. He is a member of the G. A. R., Pea Ridge Post, No. 118; and he and his wife are members of the Sons and Daughters of Justice. His son, Edward L., is a member of the A. O. U. W. Religiously, the family are Methodists.

**J**OHN J. PIERSON, a well-known citizen of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, a portrait of whom is shown on the opposite page, is the proprietor of a large wholesale grocery establishment located on North Central street. He is one of the foremost business men of the city, and is also largely identified with other enterprises.

Mr. Pierson was born in Hancock county, Illinois, in 1846, and at an early age went to Iowa, where his early manhood was mostly spent in Keokuk county on a farm. He moved west May 25, 1869, and staked out a claim in Labette county, near Altamont. The following winter he worked in Steele Bros.' sawmill, and in the spring of 1870 became associated in the mercantile pursuits with W. K. Hayes. Their store building was 14 by 16 feet in dimensions, and their stock was hauled from Fort Scott. The firm name continued as Hayes & Pierson until 1873, and then became Hayes, Pierson & Dinsmore. In 1875 Mr.

Pierson bought out his partners and became the sole owner. He continued in the retail business until January, 1894, and since that time has conducted a wholesale business in groceries and notions. In 1893 he built a three-story building on North Central street,—the dimensions being 60 by 90 feet. The entire three stories and basement are used for his business, with the exception of a part of the second floor, which is used for offices. Mr. Pierson employs a corps of 10 men, three of whom are kept constantly on the road soliciting trade. He carries a complete line of goods and sells in five counties, his business being continually on the increase.

Mr. Pierson was united in marriage, in 1880, with Augusta Braunsdorf, of Parsons, and they have reared one son, Lloyd J., who travels in the interest of his father. In politics the subject of this sketch is a Republican, and has been a delegate to two congressional conventions. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He was one of the original stockholders in the old Parsons Savings Bank, and when this institution was reorganized as the Parsons Commercial Bank, in 1878, he was made a director. He has served as secretary of the board of directors since 1880. He is, and has been, a director in the Inter-state Mortgage & Trust Company since its organization, in 1888.



E. LIGGETT, M. D., is one of the most successful physicians and surgeons in Labette county, Kansas, and is located in Oswego, where he has practiced continuously since 1884.

Dr. Liggett was born in Marysville, Ohio, in 1861, and was but nine years of age when his parents moved to Chetopa, Labette county,

Kansas. He received a good mental training in the public schools of Chetopa, and then determined upon the practice of medicine as his life work. He first studied under a preceptor, Dr. G. D. Boon, at Chetopa, and then took a course of instruction in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Keokuk, Iowa. He graduated with the class of 1884, and immediately thereafter began practice in Oswego, Kansas. He soon acquired a paying practice and established an enviable reputation as a skillful physician,—successfully coping with the most complicated cases. He has always been a close student, and has kept thoroughly informed as to the great advancement being made in medical science. In 1893, he took a post-graduate course in Bellevue Hospital, New York City. He has a very large general practice, and makes a specialty of surgery.

Dr. Liggett was united in matrimony with Mrs. Mary Maynard, and they are parents of two children,—Margaret and Ruth. He is a member of the Southeast Kansas Medical Society, of which he is now vice-president. Fraternally, he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically, he is a sturdy supporter of the principles of the Republican party.



ROBERT D. TALBOT, a veteran of the Civil War, who has an excellent record for service in the army, is a prominent citizen of Parsons, Kansas, and is chairman of the board of county commissioners of Labette county.

Mr. Talbot was born August 3, 1836, in Lisbon, St. Lawrence county, New York, and learned the trade of a wagon-maker at an early age, which he followed for several years. In



1856, he went on the Great Lakes as steward on the Northern Transportation Company's line of boats, and continued thus until 1859, when he went to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. He spent the winter of 1860-61 in lumbering in Michigan north of Green Bay, and in the spring returned to New York State. In the summer of 1861, he visited in Whiteside county, Illinois, and on August 7, 1862, entered the Union army. He enlisted in Company C. 75th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and first served under Gen. Don Carlos Buell. The regiment was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland, with which he participated in 41 battles and skirmishes. He was mustered out June 12, 1865, and returned to his former home in Illinois. He spent one summer as steward on the lakes, and then worked for the Union Pacific Railroad Company, as a carpenter. In 1867, he went to Bates county, Missouri, and in the spring of 1868 took a homestead claim in Woodson county, Kansas. He resided there until 1872, when he located in Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, of which he has since been a resident. He entered the wood working department of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, and continued with it until 1883. He was elected justice of the peace in 1883, and served as such until 1889. He also served six years in the city council, and was a member of the board of education, of which he was president. In the spring of 1889, he was appointed city clerk,—serving two years, and in 1891 he was appointed city assessor. The following spring, he was elected police judge for a term of two years, and was reelected to that office, his term expiring in 1897. In 1899, he was elected county commissioner, and was made chairman of the board; his term expires in 1902. He has been a notary public for sixteen years.

Mr. Talbot is a charter member of Antietam Post, No. 64, G. A. R. He is past commander,—was adjutant ten years, and is now quartermaster. He has always been an active worker in the interests of old soldiers, and has done more for them than any other one man in Labette county. He was one of the originators of the G. A. R. cemetery, of Parsons, and has gratuitously secured headstones for soldiers' graves, from the Government. He has been a pension attorney since 1891. He is also a charter member of Lodge No. 1, A. O. U. W., of Parsons, the first lodge established in the state of Kansas. He served eight years as an officer of the lodge, and was a delegate to the grand lodge, five years. He is also a member of the Select Knights and Ladies, being the recording treasurer in the lodge. He is a member of Mohawk Tribe, No. 6, I. O. R. M., in which he is chief of records. In politics, he is an ardent Republican. Mr. Talbot was united in Hymen's bonds in 1871, with Louisa J. Preston, and they have two children: John P. and Robert F.



WILFORD COOPER, deceased, one of the early settlers of Kansas, was the founder of Labette City, Labette county, Kansas. A man of honest, upright character, actively interested in all that pertained to the development of the county, in which he lived, his death was sincerely regretted by all. Mr. Cooper was born in Belleville, Indiana, in 1841, and was a son of Robert and Sarah (Joseph) Cooper.

Robert Cooper, the father of Wilford, was born in 1798, in Virginia, and died in Labette county, Kansas, in 1873. His wife, who was born in North Carolina, in 1805, and died in

Labette county in 1870, was the first person buried in Liberty township. They reared the following offspring: Frank, James, Jane (Galliger), and Harrison, deceased; Emma (Graham), of Des Moines, Iowa; Hale (Met-calf), of Carthage, Missouri; Wilford, Levi, Mary and Jessup, deceased.

Wilford Cooper was six years of age when his parents moved to Hendricks county, Indiana, where he lived for five years. The family then moved to Andrew county, Missouri, where he received his primary education. He assisted his father on the farm until 1861, when he enlisted in Company G, 4th Reg., Mo. Vol. Cav., and was attached to the Army of the Tennessee. He was mustered out at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, in 1865. He returned to Andrew county, Missouri, where he was ambushed by guerrillas, and was badly wounded. In 1869, he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and filed and settled upon a claim where the city of Labette now stands, which was then the southwest quarter of section 25, Liberty township. He proved up the land, laid out the town, and lived there until his death, which occurred February 5, 1901, on the homestead. He was well known throughout the county, and this section of the state, where he was considered one of the best of farmers. Mr. Cooper acted with the Populist party. At the time of his decease, he was a member of the G. A. R., of Oswego, Kansas, and of the M. W. of A. He had previously belonged to the I. O. O. F.

Mr. Cooper was united in marriage with Miriam Piper, who was born in Nicholas county, Kentucky, in 1851. Her father was John F. Piper, who was also a native of Nicholas county, Kentucky, and was born in 1801. He died in Labette county, in 1875. Her mother was Margaret Brown, who was born in 1822, in Nicholas county, Kentucky, and died in

Mason county, Kentucky, in 1863. They reared the following offspring: Angeline (Summers), of Oswego, Kansas; Miriam (Cooper); Ella, deceased; Addie (Christian), of Riverside, California; Matilda (Bell), of Scott county, Kansas; and John, of Labette county.

Mr. Cooper and his wife were the parents of six children, namely: Maggie and Mary, deceased; John, of Labette county; Elizabeth; Mabel, deceased; and Ivan I., of Labette county. Mrs. Cooper lives on the homestead, and is a charitable woman, who is loved for her many estimable qualities. She is a member of the Presbyterian church.



GEORGE S. LIGGETT, M. D., is one of the most prominent physicians and surgeons of Labette county, Kansas, and resides in the city of Oswego.

He was born in Williston, Chittenden county, Vermont, in 1853, and at an early age was taken by his parents to live at Lebanon, Illinois.

Dr. Liggett received his primary education in the public schools of Lebanon, after which he took a course of study in McKendree College, of that town, where he graduated in 1872. He then entered upon the study of medicine under a preceptor, at St. Louis, and subsequently attended a course of lectures in the St. Louis Medical College. He graduated there with the class of 1876, and in consequence of being the successful candidate in the competitive examination of the board of health, he received an appointment in the St. Louis Hospital. In 1878, he began private practice at Mount Vernon, Illinois, where he remained but a short time. He then became company physi-

cian for the famous Iron Mountain Mining Company, in which capacity he continued for a period of four years. In 1884, he located in Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, where he has since practiced in a very successful manner. He has a large general practice, but makes a specialty of microscopic work. On this subject he has written many lengthy articles for leading medical magazines, and has prepared and read treatises before medical societies, indicating a knowledge of microscopy not possessed by most physicians. He is a member of the Southeast Kansas Medical Society, of which he has been the secretary for several years. He is a Democrat, in politics, and was pension examiner under President Cleveland. He has served as county health officer and county physician, and for several years past, has been on the city board of health. Fraternally, he is a member of the blue lodge, A. F. & A. M., of which he is secretary; of Oswego Chapter, R. A. M., of which he is at present high priest; and Oswego Commandery, K. T. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America; and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Dr. Liggett served as mayor of Oswego from April, 1899, to April, 1901.



A. WEIR, the subject of this biography, is a prominent and well known real estate man of Parsons, Kansas. Since 1894, Mr. Weir has had his office with the firm of Webb & Iden and handles all kinds of farm and city real estate.

Mr. Weir was born in Sullivan county, Indiana, in 1836, and is a son of James and Salina (McKee) Weir. His grandparents were natives of Ireland. His father, James Weir, was born in Eastern Tennessee about

1798; his mother was born in Virginia. Both are long since deceased. R. A. Weir was one of a family of 11 children, of whom one is in Western Kansas, two are in Missouri, and two in Indiana. He remained at home and attended school at New Lebanon. In 1863, when the Civil War had reached its height, Mr. Weir enlisted in Company G, 11th Reg., Ind. Vol. Cav., as a private. He was with Wilson's cavalry corps in the South and West, and was a valiant soldier, as was fully attested by his promotion from the grade of private to that of first lieutenant, as mustered out in 1865.

After the close of the war, Mr. Weir returned to Indiana, where he followed farming for five years, and then moved to Neosho county, Kansas, in 1870, and purchased a claim on the Labette county line. He worked his new claim till 1876, when he removed to Parsons, and was engaged at his trade as a stonemason until 1884. In March, 1884, Mr. Weir became interested in the real estate business and has successfully managed all business transactions placed in his care. At first he was located with Foster & Duzan, but his present office is with Webb & Iden.

Mr. Weir was married to Mary E. Marts, who died some years since, leaving two children, Clara E. and R. K. The former is at home. R. K. Weir is a fireman on the Missouri Pacific Ry. and runs out of Wichita. In 1888, Mr. Weir married, for his second wife, Mrs. May E. Crumrin. For twenty years Mr. Weir resided on Gabriel avenue, but now owns a home at No. 1715 Washington avenue. Attention to business has not made Mr. Weir indifferent to outside duties, as he has served two terms as a member of the school board, and has been active in fraternal societies. He was first a member of the G. A. R. in Indiana, and now belongs to Post No. 81,

of Parsons; he has also been a member of the Masonic order since 1868. Mr. Weir united with the M. E. church in 1849. His family are all members of that church. His paternal grandfather was a Wesleyan M. E. minister.



R. E. W. BOARDMAN is the leading homeopathic physician of Parsons, Kansas, where he has been located since 1888, having a lucrative practice throughout the community. His training for this profession was most complete, and his many years of experience have given him the skill to combat the most complicated diseases successfully. He was born in Fort Dodge, Iowa, in 1860, and is a son of Dr. H. E. and Susan C. (Lock) Boardman.

Dr. H. E. Boardman was born in Vermont and received his higher education in Middlebury College, in that state. He came west when a young man, and married Susan C. Lock. It was after his marriage that he first conceived the idea of entering the medical profession, and as a result he took a course in Hahnemann Medical College at Chicago, Illinois. After his graduation from that institution, he was engaged in practice for the remainder of his life, the greater part of the time in Monroe, Wisconsin. He died at the age of sixty-three years, and was survived by his wife and two sons, the latter being Edgar W., the subject hereof; and Horace P., now a civil engineer on the Chicago & Alton Railroad.

Dr. Edgar W. Boardman obtained his primary education in Monroe, Wisconsin, and was prepared for the practice of medicine in Hahnemann Medical College at Chicago, Illinois, where he graduated with the class of

1884. He spent one year in the hospital, as house surgeon, and in December, 1885, began to practice at Larned, Kansas. He continued there for three years, and in 1888 moved to Parsons, Kansas, where he has since been located. He was successful almost from the start, and his practice has grown constantly since. He is a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy; the Kansas Homeopathic Medical Society,—of which he was formerly president,—and the Labette County Medical Society, of which he is secretary. He was president of the city board of health for two years, his term having expired in April, 1901.

Dr. Boardman was united in matrimony in 1890, with Mrs. Lillie V. Long. Fraternally, he is a member of the A. F. & A. M.; Royal Arcanum; Ancient Order of United Workmen; Modern Woodmen of America; B. P. O. E.; and Knights of the Maccabees.



RS. PAULINE FEESS, residing in one of the most beautiful residences in Parsons, Kansas, is the widow of the late Charles Feess, a prominent cigar manufacturer of that city.

Charles Feess was born in Oswell, Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1835, being one of several children. When about eighteen years old, he emigrated from his fatherland and located in 1853, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he followed the carpenter's trade for several years. Subsequently, he learned the cigar business, which he followed for some time in Chicago, Illinois. In 1858, he went to Leavenworth, Kansas, and engaged in the manufacture of cigars on an extensive scale. Returning to the East in 1860, he was again located in Philadelphia, for several years.

While living in Philadelphia and while still engaged in the carpenter business, his marriage to the subject of this sketch was consummated. In 1866, he again went west to Leavenworth, Kansas, where he continued the manufacture of cigars. Having established an extensive trade in Parsons, Kansas, he conceived the idea of locating there, and thus saving considerable traveling expenses. After building the large, brick building next to Holm's drug store, on Johnson avenue, near Central avenue, Mr. Feess removed his family to Parsons, in 1876, immediately establishing a factory in that place.

He carried on the manufacture and sale of cigars in that section very successfully, and some time afterward purchased 800 acres of land near Oswego. In 1882, he retired from business in the city, and removed to his farm, where his death occurred two years later, at the age of but forty-nine years. He was a prominent man in fraternal circles, being a member of the K. of P., I. O. O. F. and K. T.

Mrs. Feess, whose maiden name was Pauline Horning, is a daughter of Gotlieb and Dora (Swent) Horning. She was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1837, came to America in 1852, and settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Feess,—four sons and two daughters,—as follows: Charles, Annie, Otto, William E., Lucy, and Fred. Charles Feess is married and resides in Parsons. Annie Feess married Conductor Drew, in the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, and they reside on Central avenue; Mr. Drew is a member of the O. R. C. Otto Feess married a Miss Blake, and is a member of the drug firm of W. E. Feess & Company. William E. Feess is the head of the drug firm of W. E. Feess & Company, doing a successful business

as pharmacists and druggists on the corner of Johnson and Central avenues; he married Nora Warner, a daughter of one of the oldest and most respected families in Parsons. Lucy Feess married G. A. Weir, a fireman on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway; Mr. Weir is a member of the B. of L. F. Fred Feess is a clerk in the drug store of his brothers. Otto and William E. Feess are members of the Knights of the Maccabees, and the former is also a member of the Elks.

Mrs. Feess still owns the large farm near Oswego, which she leases for pasturage and farming purposes. She returned to Parsons shortly after the death of her husband, and for a time lived in the large brick building, which was formerly their home. This she sold subsequently, and in 1897 erected her present beautiful residence at 1915 Crawford avenue. She distinctly remembers, and often refers to, incidents of pioneer life in Kansas, where she first located in 1858. Many features of her journey to Leavenworth are as fresh in her mind as if they occurred but yesterday. The railroad extended only to Jefferson City, Missouri, at that time, and the remainder of the intervening distance was traversed by boat. Mrs. Feess is a lady of many virtues, of both heart and mind, has a wide circle of friends, and is greatly beloved by her children. The entire family worship at the Presbyterian church.

---

**C**YRENIUS W. GRAGG, a general storekeeper of Dennis, Labette county, Kansas, has been postmaster of that village for the past four years. He was born June 5, 1848, in Pulaski county, Kentucky.



His father was born in Virginia, and lived to the age of sixty-eight years. His mother was a native of Kentucky, and also reached the age of sixty-eight years. They reared 12 children, namely: Emily F.; H. H.; Amanda; Ella; William P.; J. B., deceased; Cyrenius W.; L. B.; Paulina and Amelia, twins, both deceased; and Alice and Bell, deceased.

Cyrenius W. Gragg spent his early life in his native state, Kentucky, and engaged in the drug business during 1871 and 1872. He was appointed U. S. storekeeper and also postmaster at Monticello, Kentucky, which position he held until 1884. In that year, Mr. Gragg decided to move west, and accordingly located in Labette county, Kansas, where he lived, near where the notorious Bender family in previous years committed so many awful murders. He conducted his farm for one year and then traded it for his store in Dennis, where he now lives. He was made postmaster of that village four years ago, and in connection with this position operates a general store. He has been very prosperous, and his trade increases each year. In connection with his general business, he has shipped 73 car-loads of corn and oats, and 20 car-loads of hay. Mr. Gragg is very generally and favorably known in Labette county, and is one of the influential men of Dennis, no public enterprise being completed without his assistance.

Mr. Gragg married Wileta Burton, who was partially reared by Allen Burton, United States Minister to one of the South American governments, under Grant's administration. Mr. Burton was a brother of Mrs. Gragg's father. Mr. and Mrs. Gragg have been blessed with three children, namely: Bessie, Hazel and Helen. Mr. Gragg belongs to the Anti Horsethief Association. He is a staunch Republican, in politics. Religiously, he attends

the United Brethren church, in which he is an interested worker. He is very popular in Dennis, and is one of the best citizens in the town.



ALTER S. EVERY, a prominent farmer of Labette county, Kansas, who is largely engaged in the raising of cattle and hogs, is at present living on section 2, in Liberty township. He is widely known in the county, where he is considered a man of high character, and one who is honest and upright in dealing with his fellow citizens. Mr. Every was born in Delaware county, New York, in 1859, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Scott) Every.

George Every was born in Delaware county, New York, in 1835, and his death occurred in Labette county, Kansas, fifty-six years later. He married Elizabeth Scott, who was also a native of Delaware county, New York, and was born in 1845. She died in Labette county, Kansas, in 1886. They reared the following offspring: Nettie (Graham), who lives in Labette county; Willis, who lives in Oswego, Kansas; Walter S., the subject of this sketch; John, who lives in Labette county; George, who lives in Kansas; Frank, a resident of Parsons, Kansas; Albert, who lives in Missouri; and Matilda (Bandy), who lives in Labette county.

Walter S. Every spent the first ten years of his life in Delaware county, New York, where he received his primary education. His father moved to Labette county, Kansas, in 1869, and Walter S. accompanied him. He assisted his father in farming, and subsequently bought his present farm in section 2. He takes great pride in raising fine stock, and has been very successful in that line.—his cattle







M. M. KINGSBURY.

and hogs being among the finest in the state. Mr. Every also makes a specialty of raising small fruits, and this venture has also met with great success. He is a thorough, conscientious farmer, and his farm is always well kept, and carefully managed.

Mr. Every married Eva Bunnell, who was born in Kansas, in 1860. This union resulted in the birth of five children, whose names are: Frank, Ethel, Pearl, Jessie, and Walter, all of whom are living in Labette county. In political belief, Mr. Every is independent, voting for the man who, in his opinion, is best qualified to fill the office.



**H. HOWLETT.** Among the prominent real estate dealers of Parsons, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. A man of honest and upright business methods, and of the strictest integrity, he is highly respected in the community, of which he is a well known member. He is an active worker in local affairs, and is always ready to assist in any movement which tends toward the welfare of the people, and of the town in which he resides. Mr. Howlett was born in Rennselaer county, New York, in 1836, and is of English descent. His father was John Howlett, who was born in England.

Mr. Howlett was reared and schooled in his native county, where he remained until 1856. He then moved to Chicago, Illinois, and entered the locomotive department of the Chicago & Rock Island Railroad Company. There he remained for two years, when he moved to Kentucky, where he was engaged in railroad-ing until 1861. After the Civil War broke out, he enlisted, in August, 1861, in Company D,

6th Reg., New York Vol. Cav. He served in the Army of the Potomac, and during the second battle of Bull Run, in 1863, he was wounded, and afterward received an honorable discharge. In 1864, Mr. Howlett returned to his former occupation of railroading, accepting a position as engineer with the N. & O. Railroad Company. He remained with this company until 1870, when he obtained similar employment with the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company. In 1893, Mr. Howlett became interested in real estate transactions, and decided to open up a place of business in this line, in Parsons, where he has made his home since 1871. He has been very successful, and has a large patronage. He possesses a thorough understanding of realty affairs, and is well known in Parsons and the surrounding country.

In 1876, Mr. Howlett was married to Minnie Mersereau, and they have been blessed with four children, whose names are: Sadie, John, Emily, and Hattie. The subject of this sketch is a member of the A. O. U. W. and A. F. & A. M. lodges, and also of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.



**M. KINGSBURY** is a progressive business man who has been engaged in the drug business in Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, since 1870. He is senior member of the firm of Kingsbury & Frick, leading druggists of the city. Mr. Kingsbury was born in Franklin county, Indiana, October 12, 1839, and is a son of George W. and Rebecca (Remey) Kingsbury.

George W. Kingsbury was born, reared and schooled in the state of New Hampshire.

He learned the trade of a carpenter, and followed it during the early part of his business life, but later pursued the occupation of a farmer. He located in Franklin county, Indiana, where he was united in marriage with Rebecca Remey, of that county. They journeyed west, to Labette county, Kansas, in 1866, where the husband took up a farm, and where he lived until his death. He died at the age of sixty-seven years and his widow at the age of eighty-two years. They were parents of eight children: Theodosia (Ruble); James T., deceased; Adelaide (Conover); M. M., the gentleman whose name heads these lines; Joseph J.; Winfield S.; William R.; and Elizabeth (Dickerman). George W. Remey was a Republican, in politics; in religious attachments he was a member of the Baptist church.

M. M. Kingsbury received his primary education in the common schools of his native county, and in Howes Seminary at Mount Pleasant, Iowa. When the Civil war broke out he enlisted in Company G, 11th Reg., Iowa Vol. Inf., and was in the campaign of Vicksburg, and later, with the army of Gen. Sherman. He enlisted as a private, but was promoted to be captain of Company F, 46th Reg., U. S. Colored Troops, and was mustered out of the service in February, 1866. He participated in much hard fighting and was in the following important engagements, in addition to many of less note: Pittsburg Landing, Vicksburg and vicinity, Alexandria, and the Red River expedition. After returning from the war he attended a mercantile school at Kansas City for six months, and in 1867 took a claim in Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas. He then went back to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, where he was married to Lisette Cozier. He returned to Labette county, in 1867, and in 1870 established the foundation of his present

thriving drug business. From a small beginning it grew, as its patronage justified, into a large store, well stocked and handsome in its appointments, and commanding the best drug trade of the city. Since 1890 he has had associated with him Mr. P. C. Frick,—a very enterprising man,—the firm name being Kingsbury & Frick.

In politics, Mr. Kingsbury is a strong advocate of Republican principles, and has taken an active interest in party work. He has served in the city council. Fraternally, he is a member of Post No. 150, G. A. R.; and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. A portrait of Mr. Kingsbury accompanies this sketch.



F. GRIERSON, a gentleman who has been identified with religious work since his arrival in Parsons, Kansas, in 1876, has accomplished much good and done much to elevate the moral standard of the city and county. He is a veteran of the Civil War and is commander of Post No. 81, G. A. R.

Mr. Grierson was born in Lexington, Kentucky, October 10, 1836, and spent his early boyhood in Brown county, Ohio. He attended the Ripley High School and Delaware College, and then for twenty years was engaged as an instructor in schools in the states of Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Kansas. He located in Parsons, December 1, 1876, where he has since resided. He has been in the ministry of the old Christian church for twenty-eight years, and for two years has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal church. For six years, he was state missionary for the Christian church, and was organizer of the first school for negroes, in Parsons.

Mr. Grierson is a son of John Grierson, who during his early life followed teaching and later engaged in farming. John Grierson was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland. He married Anne Greenhow, by whom he had ten sons and four daughters; nine of his family grew to maturity, and seven are still living. John Grierson died at the age of seventy years, and his wife, at the age of seventy-two years.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage, in 1865, with Hannah Hiett, of Brown county, Ohio, and they became parents of four children: Ida (Kilmer), a resident of Lincoln, Kansas; Walter A., of Parsons; Anne; and James A., who married Lodema Weaver, by whom he has a son, Harold, and who resides in Parsons, Kansas. W. F. Grierson is a member of the Sons and Daughters of Justice. In politics, he is a Republican, and was justice of the peace from 1891 to 1896. He has served six years on the school board, and has also been a member of the board of health. He is a charter member of Post No. 81, G. A. R., of which he was elected commander in 1900.

Mr. Grierson was the first man to enlist from Brown county, Ohio, when a call for troops was made. He enlisted in Company B, 1st Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and his first battle was at Bull Run. After the expiration of three months,—his term of enlistment,—he reenlisted in Company B, 33d Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and served in the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Stone River, Perryville, Richmond Hill, and Chickamauga. At the last named place, he was taken prisoner, and held in captivity for eighteen months and nine days. He was first incarcerated at Libby Prison, and then at Danville, whence he was removed to Ander-

sonville. Afterward he was taken to various places, in order to prevent his liberation by the Union army.

**F**ON. J. B. MORRIS, judge of the police court of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, is widely known in the county, and his election to his present position shows the confidence placed in him by his fellow citizens. He is a natural leader among men, being possessed of keen perceptions and good judgment. The duties of his office are arduous and exacting, yet he performs them to the entire satisfaction of all. Judge Morris is a native of Cattaraugus county, New York, and was born in 1832.

Judge Morris received his early education in his native state, where he applied himself to the trade of a carriage-maker. He also learned the business of a contractor, which he followed for many years. He went to Marshall county, Illinois, in 1866, where he did considerable work in contracting. Three years later, he moved to Elk Point, Dakota, and in 1875, located in Parsons, Kansas, where he has since resided. He has built many houses in the city, and until he accepted his present public office was extensively engaged in the contracting business,—being considered one of the best in the county. Judge Morris has always been actively interested in the affairs of the county, and of the city in which he lives, and has continually given much time and attention to local politics.

Judge Morris has been twice married, first to Jane Moore, of New York State, who died leaving one daughter, Ella, now the wife of S. T. Gilbert, living in Colony, Kansas. He next married Aggie Rider, a native of Buffalo, New York, who died in March, 1900. She bore

him two children,—J. Webb, now in the employ of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company, at Parsons, Kansas, and Charles H., an invalid.

He is a firm supporter of the Republican party, and has served three terms in the city council. He also served as deputy United States marshal, under B. F. Simpson, and as deputy sheriff and justice of the peace. Judge Morris was appointed police judge in 1897, to serve out an unexpired term, and was reelected to that office in the spring of 1898, and also at the election of 1901. Fraternally, the Judge is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men, Mohawk Tribe, No. 6.

The subject of this sketch has had a very active and useful career, and his success has been due entirely to his own efforts. He has striven long and faithfully, with unceasing labor, and all his undertakings have met with success. He is a man of affable and pleasing manners, and his friends in Parsons and its vicinity are many.

**P**ROF. J. C. OLSON, one of the best known educators of the state of Kansas, is president of the Parsons Business College, of Parsons. This institution not only takes rank as the best commercial college in the Southwest, but is also one of the foremost in the United States.

Established in 1892, the Parsons Business College was a success from its very inception. Prof. J. C. Olson, the president of the college, is master of his art. He is a thorough educator, his methods of business are upright and just, and his reputation for honesty and just dealing with students and with the public generally is such that the citizens of Parsons, in every

vocation, from banker to laborer, vouch for his good stewardship. The growth of the college has been phenomenal,—about 200 pupils having been enrolled during the past year, many of whom are from other states. Hundreds of successful stenographers and bookkeepers attest the efficiency of the Parsons Business College. The work done is of a high grade. Every branch of business education is handled by practical and capable instructors, bearing diplomas from the best educational institutions in the country. The members of the faculty are as follows: J. C. Olson, M. A., president, instructor in bookkeeping and penmanship; Carolyn A. Brehm, B. A., shorthand and typewriting; Mrs. G. C. Townsend, vocal music; A. A. Osgood, B. S., commercial law; W. L. Newell, mathematics and English; A. J. Harris, assistant in the business department; and Edna Shoup, assistant in shorthand and typewriting. There are also numerous lecturers, of prominence in the community, whose connection with the school adds greatly to its standing. As the Parsons Business College has flourished in the past, there is a good prospect that under the efficient management of Prof. Olson it will continue to do so in the future.

**M**ILO HILDRETH. This gentleman has for many years been one of the leading agriculturists of Labette county, and is known as a gentleman of marked intelligence, firm principles and strict integrity. He takes an active interest in the county's welfare, and is one of its most progressive citizens. Mr. Hildreth is a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, where he was born in 1844.

His father moved to Jefferson county, In-



diana, in 1853, and there Milo Hildreth received his early mental training. He attended Oberlin College, in Ohio, during 1866 and 1867, and taught school in Ohio, Indiana and Kansas, for seven years. In 1870, Mr. Hildreth moved to Labette county, settling in Mount Pleasant township, in section 30, where he has since lived. He rapidly became known as one of the progressive men of the county, and, being possessed of superior executive ability and good judgment, was soon appointed to some of the township offices. He was district school clerk from 1874 to 1897. In addition to this, he has served two terms as township trustee, one term as township clerk, and two terms as county commissioner. He is now, and has been for the past four years, trustee of the county high school, at Altamont, an office which he fills to the entire satisfaction of all.

Mr. Hildreth was united in marriage with Mary E. Kinnear, who was born in Jefferson county, Indiana, in 1843. She is a daughter of William and Barbara (McKay) Kinnear. William Kinnear was born in Fauquier county, Virginia, in 1817, and died in Jefferson county, Indiana, in 1893. His wife, Barbara (McKay) Kinnear, was a native of Jefferson county, and was born in 1819; her death took place in that county, sixty-three years later. The children resulting from this union were as follows: James, of Kirksville, Missouri; Mary E., Harriet (Corya), deceased; Alzora Nelson), of Oswego, Kansas; Sarah, of Jefferson county, Indiana; Charles, of the same county; George, of Greenwood, Indiana; Arthur, of Eureka, Utah; Anna (Cosby), of Burns-ville, Indiana; and Samuel, of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Mr. Hildreth's wife has borne him five children, namely: Lucy, deceased; and Chester, Clara, Eva, and Blanche,—all of Labette county. Mr. Hildreth has been an active

member of the Baptist church for a number of years. He is widely known in the county, where he has a host of warm friends.

**L**UTHER W. WELCH, who has had a remarkably successful career in rail-roading, has worked his way up from the position of water boy to that of superintendent of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway. He is located in the city of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, where he is well and favorably known as a man of upright principles and sterling qualities.

Mr. Welch was born in Wyoming county, Pennsylvania, in 1841. Becoming an orphan at the age of thirteen years, he at once set out to support himself, and from that period he has been his own supporter and the architect of his own fortunes. Entering the employ of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Company, he carried water for a time for the service and construction gangs on that road. Subsequently, he entered the transportation department of the road, and at various times served as fireman, engineer, dispatcher and conductor. He was in the employ of the company sixteen years, with the exception of two years spent in the Civil Service of the Government during the War of the Rebellion. He was then for a short time trainmaster on the Ithaca & Athens Railway, after which he was advanced to the position of assistant superintendent. In 1876, he came west to enter the service of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, with which he has since continued, with the exception of two years passed in the service of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, as roadmaster. He entered the service of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Com-

pany as a train man and was gradually promoted, until in 1886, he was made superintendent of the Cherokee, Neosho and Parsons divisions, with office at Parsons, Kansas. He has been successful in his position, and is in high favor with the officials of the road.

In 1890, Mr. Welch was united in marriage with Lelia Smith, a daughter of Robert B. Smith, of Parsons, and they have two children: Lute T. and James Norman. The subject of this sketch has been a member of the different railway orders, and formerly took an active part in their work, which the pressure of official duties has compelled him to relinquish. Fraternally, he is a Mason and Knight Templar, and a member of the B. P. O. E.

**T**HOMAS H. CHILES. This gentleman is a farmer living in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, on section 14, township 32, range 18. He was born in Indiana, and is a son of Rollin Allison and Virginia A. E. Chiles. His parents lived in Indiana, where they reared five children, of whom Thomas H. and his sister, Minerva, alone survive. The others were Phoebe L., Francis and Margaret. Minerva lives in Montgomery county, Kansas.

Thomas H. Chiles received his mental training in the common schools of his native county, and at the age of sixteen years began to work on his father's farm. When he was twenty-two years old,—on August 9, 1861,—he enlisted in the army, and saw active service for three years. He was mustered out September 15, 1864, after which he returned to Indiana, where he was married. He lived in Indiana until 1871, when with his wife and family he moved to Labette county, Kansas, where he

has since resided. He is engaged in general farming and dairying, and is very prosperous. He has had a thorough training in the tilling of the soil, and is considered one of the best farmers in the township. His farm is kept in good condition, being well managed and cared for.

Mr. Chiles married Barbara Ledgerwood, a native of Indiana, and they have been blessed with five children, namely: Alzira, who is married, and lives near her father's farm; Jennie and James, who are at home; Laura, who lives in Mound Valley township; and Omar, who also lives at home. Mr. Chiles is a Republican, in politics, and has served on the school board of Mound Valley township. He has been a member of the Hopewell church for the past eighteen years. Mr. Chiles is well known in Labette county, where he is highly respected by all.

**C**HARLES A. LAMBERT, the popular and expert tailor at Parsons, Kansas, where he has one of the largest and best stocked tailor shops in the city, was born in Youngstown, Ohio, in April, 1869. He is a son of S. J. and Kate (Hartzell) Lambert. His parents and one sister reside in Parsons, where his father is a wholesale flour and feed dealer, on Central avenue. One sister is married and resides in Kansas City, and a brother lives in California.

In 1878, the Lambert family, including Charles A., moved west to Parsons, Kansas, where the subject hereof obtained his primary education. He attended school three months in the old frame building on South Twenty-first street, and afterwards pursued his studies in the East building. He was subsequently

sent to Girard, Ohio, where he also attended school, making his home during that time with a sister.

When fifteen years old he returned to Parsons, and attended private school, taking a complete course in mathematics and book-keeping. Mr. Lambert began his active career when sixteen years old, working at first as clerk in a grocery store, and driving the delivery wagon. He has made his own way ever since, without any financial aid whatever. In October, 1890, he became apprenticed to learn the tailor trade, working two years at "Anthony's," in Cleveland, Ohio, where he completely mastered the cutter's trade, and became quite an expert in that line. Accepting a position at Youngstown, Ohio, he served as cutter for ten months. He followed the same line of work at various places afterward. Among these was Chicago, Illinois, where he was cutter for "Reynolds;" Wichita, Kansas, whither he went in 1893; and St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. Lambert then became a traveling salesman, and for several months sold woollens and fine cloths to different tailoring establishments throughout Texas. Since then he traveled in that capacity a great deal, but was finally taken sick with typhoid fever, and returned home. After recuperating, he entered into partnership with J. M. Haller, and conducted a tailor shop in Parsons, until May, 1896. He then sold his interest and immediately engaged as cutter in the establishment of Mr. Johnson, where he remained several months.

In August, 1896, Mr. Lambert embarked in business for himself at his present location, 210 South Central avenue, where he now has a tailoring establishment second to none in the city. His building is 60 by 22 feet, in dimensions, and contains an exceptionally large and fine stock, which he also retails as occasion de-

mands. He employs seven workmen but takes pride in doing all his own cutting, and turns out a large number of first class, up to date and stylish garments.

Mr. Lambert is unmarried. He is a valued member of the B. P. O. E., A. F. & A. M., and K. of P. He entertains broad, liberal ideas on religious subjects, without allying himself with any church denomination. In his political action he votes a straight Democratic ticket, and exerts all his influence in behalf of his favorite party. He does not, however, allow politics to interfere with business, and it is his constant aim to give his many patrons thorough satisfaction and good workmanship. He is indeed a hustler, and is rightly considered one of the most thrifty and progressive business men of Parsons.



P. HINDENACH, who resides at his comfortable home at No. 2200 Briggs avenue, is a true type of a self made man. He was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and is a son of John and Catherine (Goodekuntz) Hindenach, who gave their attention to agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Hindenach is one of 11 children,—nine sons and two daughters,—all but two of whom are living. The record follows: Frederick, of Allentown, Pennsylvania; George, of Ambler, Pennsylvania; J. P.; Mary (Funk), of Quakertown, Pennsylvania; Charles, deceased, who was the owner of a fine farm at Ambler, Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia; John, a millwright; Christ. and Peter, partners in a store at Durham, Pennsylvania; William, a farmer living near Durham, Pennsylvania; Louise (Bowman), of Easton, Pennsylvania; and

Harry, deceased, whose widow and two children reside near Durham, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Hindenach attended the common schools of his native state, and remained at home on the farm until he attained his majority. He then worked at different lines of employment until the fall of 1869, when he went west, to Boone county, Iowa, whence, after working on a farm a few months, he went to Humboldt, Kansas. From Humboldt Mr. Hindenach came to Labette county, Kansas, and began work on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, first as wiper, then as fireman, switching engineer, and later as road engineer,—pulling trains to Cherokee and Neosho. He retired from railroad service and moved to Parsons, where he had formerly purchased an 18-acre tract of land, and then built his present home. It was in 1870 that he became a resident of Parsons, and at first boarded in the tents of which the town at that time was composed.

Mr. Hindenach was twice married. His first wife was Lavina Journot, of Parsons. She died in 1882, leaving two children, Eva and Pearl, to the care of her husband. Some time afterward he was united in marriage with Rose E. Smith. Four children have blessed this union, viz: Raymond, Beatrice, Leo and Ralph.

Mr. Hindenach deserves to be ranked among the leading business men of Parsons. His efforts through life have been crowned with success. Aside from the elegant home residence, he also owns the fine brick block at 2112 Johnson avenue, occupied by Saylor Brothers, grocers. He has also other properties, and spends his time looking after his various interests, raising some stock, and caring for the large amount of fruit grown on the home place.

In politics, Mr. Hindenach affiliates with the Democrats, and usually attends his party caucuses. He is a member of Lodge No. 1, A. O. U. W., of Parsons, and of the Sons and Daughters of Justice. Mrs. Hindenach is also a member of the latter society. In religious views, they embrace the Catholic faith.



AMUEL F. TERRIL, a prosperous farmer and stock raiser residing in section 22, Mount Pleasant township, Labette county, Kansas, is also a surveyor by profession, and served one term as surveyor of this county. He was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1829, and is a son of Adam and Elizabeth (Marling) Terril.

Daniel Terril, grandfather of Samuel F., was born at Tidewater, New Jersey, in 1758, and died in Ohio county, West Virginia, in 1831. He married Jane Giffin, who was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1765, and died in Ohio county, West Virginia, in 1843.

Adam Terril, father of Samuel F., was born in Ohio county, West Virginia, in 1797, and died in 1865, in Muskingum county, Ohio. He married Elizabeth Marling, who was born in 1798, in Ohio county, West Virginia, and died in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1871. They reared nine children, as follows: Daniel, John M., Mary, Robert and Isabel, deceased; Samuel F.; James W. and William, deceased; and Josiah, of Muskingum, Ohio.

Samuel F. Terril resided in his native county with his parents and worked upon the farm until he was twenty-three years of age, when he moved to Clay county, Indiana. Here he remained until 1871, when he removed to Labette county, Kansas, locating in section 22, Mount Pleasant township, where he has since





JAMES W. GALYEN.





MRS. LUCRETIA L. GALYEN.



resided and applied himself to general farming and stock raising. He has also followed the profession of a surveyor, and served one term as county surveyor of Clay county, Indiana, and one term in Labette county, Kansas. He is a man of the strictest integrity, and of shrewd business ability, and has attained a high degree of success.

Mr. Terril was united in marriage with Margaret Laughlin, who was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1835, and is a daughter of William and Sarah (Nesbitt) Laughlin. Her father was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1809, and died in 1885, in Clay county, Indiana. Her mother was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, in 1805, and died in Clay county, Indiana, in 1866. Samuel F. Terril and his wife are the parents of five children, namely: William; Ezra; James, who has a son, Howard; Eli U.; and Sarah (Rayburn), of Champaign, Illinois. All of the children but the last named are residents of Labette county. Mr. Terril has always been a zealous Republican, in politics, until the last few years; he is an active member of the I. O. O. F.

**J**AMES W. GALYEN, who was for many years one of the most prominent agriculturists located along the Neosho river, in Labette county, Kansas, died February 15, 1899. Always interested in public improvements and the development of his community, he was one of its best citizens, and his death was deeply mourned by his fellow citizens with whom he had been associated for so many years. Mrs. Galyen is now located comfortably in Parsons, Kansas, where she has many friends.

James W. Galyen was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, October 16, 1837. At the age of twelve years he was taken by his parents to Barry county, Missouri, where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil war. Believing the South was making a fight for its just rights, he sided with that section, and enlisted in the 11th Regiment, Missouri Infantry, and served in Price's Division until 1862, when he was discharged. He then moved to Greene county, Illinois, where he resided until 1865, when he decided to establish a home in the west, and journeyed to Labette county, Kansas. Arriving at Trotter's ford on December 19, 1865, he took up a claim on the Neosho river, which he cleared, and cultivated during the rest of his life. His last days were spent at his son's home, whither he had moved one month prior to his death. He was a very successful farmer, and laid up a handsome competency. He was a man of many excellent qualities, was honest and upright in all of his dealings, and his townsmen lamented his death as a loss to the community.

December 6, 1860, Mr. Galyen was united in matrimony with Lucretia J. Lovelace, who was born December 7, 1844, in Benton county, Missouri, and is a daughter of Isaac and Maria J. (Ashley) Lovelace. Her father, a prominent farmer by occupation, was born in McCracken county, Kentucky, and her mother in Ballard county, Kentucky. This old and respected family moved to Missouri in 1839, where they lived until 1862, and then went to Greene county, Illinois. Five years later they moved to Miami county, Kansas, where they continued to live for some time. Isaac Lovelace died October 19, 1890, at the age of seventy-one years, while on a visit to Arkansas. Mrs. Lovelace died March 10, 1890, at the age of seventy years. They were parents of four

children, as follows: Elizabeth; James E.; America; and Lucretia J. Elizabeth, deceased, married John Ellis, by whom she had one son, Lafayette. James E. married Melinda Morgan, by whom he had four children: Lenora, John, Lucy, and Edna. America, who resides in Cherokee county, Kansas, married Ivy Irwin, by whom she had four children, Frank, Perry, Henry, and Mary; being left a widow, she became the wife of Lewis Westervelt. Lucretia J., the youngest member of the family, is the widow of the subject of this sketch. In religious belief, the family were Baptists.

Mr. and Mrs. Galyen were the parents of one son, Isaac W., a record of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Galyen has lived in Parsons since the death of her husband, and has a comfortable home at No. 1327 Johnson avenue, where she is surrounded by many friends. She still owns two valuable farms, which she rents. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Galyen accompany this sketch.

**B**ENJAMIN FRANKLIN DIENST, a prominent stock dealer of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, has also followed auctioneering for a number of years, and is considered quite an expert in crying public sales. Mr. Dienst is a son of J. H. and Henrietta (Gatze) Dienst, who in former years were influential citizens of the Hoosier State. J. H. Dienst is deceased, but his widow is still living. They left Indiana and came west to Labette county, Kansas, where they located in April, 1868, and erected the second house built on the prairie. There were then only about half a dozen families in that section, and they were located along Big Hill Creek. The elder Dienst took up a claim in Osage

township,—the southwest quarter of section 20, township 31, range 18. This land is still in the possession of the family, and still remains the home of the beloved mother. Fourteen children were born to this worthy couple. They were: J. L., formerly of Kansas, who died in 1872, leaving a widow and one child; Caroline (Paul), who died in 1878; Henry, who died before the family left Indiana; Benjamin Franklin, the subject of this biography; Theodore, a farmer near Idenbro, Kansas; three, who died in infancy; George E., who was an Evangelical minister in Japan for many years, but is now a physician of Chicago, making a specialty of eye, ear, nose and throat diseases; Dan W., of Coffeyville, Kansas; two, who were twins and died in infancy; Lola (Miller), who resides with her mother on the farm; and Monroe, who is shipping clerk for a tinplate factory at Atlanta, Indiana.

Benjamin F. Dienst was born January 9, 1851, in the state of Indiana. He went to school in his native state, and also in Labette county, after the family came west, and remained at home until the spring of 1872. He spent the following season as a cowboy on a range, and returned home in July, 1873. In company with Mr. Carson, he left home again and went north in search of the Benders, arriving, some time later, in the state of Wisconsin. While there he engaged in lumbering, rafting, etc., and while working in that capacity was enabled to explore different islands in the Mississippi river. After a fruitless search, he returned home in 1874, and soon afterward his marriage took place. He married Elida J. Monyhon, a daughter of David Monyhon. It is a strange coincidence that Mrs. Dienst is also one of a family of 14 children. She was born in Indiana in 1854. Three of her sisters are Mrs. D. M. Markley,

of Parsons; Mrs. Koho, of Arkansas City; and Mrs. O. L. Coleman, of Beloit, Kansas. Their father, who was familiarly known as "Uncle" David Monyhon, left Southern Indiana and went west to Kansas in 1869. He located in Labette county near the Bender mound, and it was he who first discovered the mysterious disappearance of that family. In 1882 he removed from that location to Cherryvale, where his death took place in 1897, and where his widow and two of his sons still reside.

Seven children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dienst, as follows: Hattie E.; Grace; Mattie; William H.; Theodore; David H.; and George E. Hattie E., or Mrs. Rich, resides in Labette county, and has one child, Kenneth. Grace was born in 1876. Mattie, or Mrs. Widup, was born in 1878, and resides on a farm in Liberty township. William H. was born in 1880, and is an employee of the American Express Company, at Parsons, Kansas. Theodore was born in 1882, and is now employed by a telephone company. David H. was born in 1884, and is a student, as is also the youngest son, who was born in 1886.

In the early "seventies" Mr. Dienst pre-empted the northwest quarter of section 20, township 31, range 18, in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, which land was located directly north of his father's place. After farming for several years, he sold that tract and purchased another farm, where he continued agricultural pursuits until the fall of 1880. He then moved into Johnson county, Missouri, where he followed a like occupation for four years. In the fall of 1884 he returned to Kansas, and rented his mother's farm, which he conducted very successfully for the next three years. He then purchased another farm for himself, where he lived until 1893, and

then sold out, and removed to Parsons. After living for about one year in the city, he returned to the country, and farmed for several additional years. He again located in Parsons, upon the completion of his present comfortable residence on the corner of Morgan avenue and Twenty-first street.

Mr. Dienst commenced auctioneering in 1884. He cried his first public sale in Osage township, for E. B. Eberhart. Since then he has followed that business extensively. He is quite an artist in his profession, and has cried sales in seven different townships. He also deals in stock,—buying and selling hogs and cattle. Mr. Dienst is a self made man in every sense of the word, and deserves great credit for his industry and his ability to make a success of everything he undertakes. He is a Republican, in politics, and has served as trustee of Osage township. He has also filled the position of city marshal of Parsons, having been appointed to fill a vacancy. In their religious views, the family favor the M. E. church

---

**D**R. JAMES HEACOCK, president of the board of United States pension examiners, is a highly esteemed citizen of Parsons. He was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, July 29, 1842, and is a son of Willin Heacock, and grandson of Jacob Heacock, the latter a native of Philadelphia.

Willin Heacock was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, and was reared a farmer. He followed farming and sheep raising until his death, which occurred in Meigs county, Ohio, at the age of thirty-five years. He married Maria Edmundson, both being of the Quaker faith. She died in Kansas at the age of fifty-

two years. They reared two sons: James H. and Howard P., a mining engineer of Spokane, Washington.

Dr. James Heacock received his elementary education in Meigs county, Ohio, and at the age of fourteen years began the study of medicine under Dr. Elben, of Pomeroy, Ohio. During the Civil war he enlisted in the 7th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., but the state's quota having been filled, that company was prevented from going to the front. After a period of three months, he re-enlisted in the 15th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and was transferred to the 7th Ohio Battery of Light Artillery. He went out in 1863 and served two years and one month, being discharged August 11, 1865. He was in the First Division of the 17th Army Corps, and participated in the engagement at Island No. 10 and in the siege of Vicksburg. He was clerk of the battery during the entire period of his service. After the war, he engaged in the practice of his profession. He settled in Kansas in 1869, and on October 16th of that year took up a claim in North township, Labette county, upon which claim he lived. In 1871 and 1872 he took a course of lectures in the St. Louis Homeopathic Medical College, and received a degree. He resided upon his farm in Labette county, which he improved, and engaged also in the practice of medicine until 1882, when he accepted a position with the Northern Pacific Railway Company, as surgeon. He remained with this company two and a half years, and then located in the city of Parsons. In 1885 he sold his farm of 320 acres, at that time the best improved farm in the county. He had a good orchard of 40 acres and a fine three-story brick house; the consideration of the sale was \$20,000. The Doctor has since resided in Parsons, and en-

joys a lucrative practice, in addition to his official position.

March 17, 1867, Dr. Heacock was united in marriage with Anna Gaston, of Meigs county, Ohio, and they have the following children: Eva M., wife of C. W. Ryan, of Parsons; Myrta M., wife of E. A. Wallon, of Parsons; Ida M., a teacher in the Parsons schools; Nina D., wife of Luther Ryan, of Parsons; and J. Howard, who attends the Parsons High School, and is a member of the class of 1902. Dr. Heacock is a member of Post No. 81, G. A. R., and is post surgeon. He is also a member of the Select Knights and the Ancient Order of United Workmen,—in both of which he is surgeon. In politics, he is a Republican, and has been president of the board of pension examiners since 1897. Mrs. Heacock established the Floral Park Greenhouse in 1895, and has since conducted it,—handling all kinds of flowers. She is possessed of exceptional business ability and has met with success in her undertaking. She edited the *Searchlight*, under the auspices of the W. R. C., for three years. It was a monthly journal devoted to the interest of the old soldiers and their widows.

---

**B**ENEZER H. McCREERY is the owner and manager of a large lumberyard at Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, and does an extensive business throughout his section of the county. He is a native of Indiana county, Pennsylvania, where he was born January 22, 1856, and is a son of Robert McCreery. His grandfather was born in Scotland and was the first representative of the family in this country.




Robert McCreery was a farmer, and followed that occupation all his life; he was over eighty years of age at the time of his death. He was united in marriage with Nancy DuShane, who now resides in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, at the age of eighty-six years. They reared the following children: William, a resident of Loveland, Colorado; Isaac N., a lumber dealer, of St. Louis, Missouri; James, who resides at Fort Collins, Colorado; John, who resides in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania; Ebenezer H.; Frank, who lives in Colorado; and Robert, who resides in Jefferson county, Pennsylvania.

Ebenezer H. McCreery attended the schools of his native county, and at an early age took up the trade of a carpenter, which he followed until 1884. He located in Parsons, Kansas, in 1880, and in 1884 engaged in the lumber business with his brother, Isaac N. This business was established, in 1881, by Lee Clark and Isaac N. McCreery. The former sold out in 1884, and shortly afterward the subject hereof bought an interest in the business. The brothers continued to conduct this business until 1890, when they sold the concern to L. B. Graves, and moved to St. Louis, Missouri. There they were again engaged in the lumber business together until 1899, when Ebenezer H. McCreery disposed of his interest to his brother and returned to Parsons, Kansas. He then purchased the yard and business in which he had formerly been interested, and has operated it since. He has a very large trade and is one of the substantial business men of the city of Parsons.

In 1890 Mr. McCreery was united in marriage with Nellie Wilson, who died in 1892, leaving one daughter, Margaret. In 1894, Jennie McClung became his wife, and they have one daughter, Katherine. He is a mem-

ber of the Missouri and Kansas Association of Lumber Dealers. Politically, he is unwavering in his support of the Republican party.

EORGE W. HAWK, cashier and manager of the Parsons Commercial Bank, has served in that capacity since 1878, and is one of the foremost business men of the city of Parsons, LaBette county, Kansas.

Mr. Hawk was born in Fayette county, Ohio, in 1843, and was six years of age when taken by his parents to Illinois, in 1849. He was reared in Champaign county, Illinois, and in 1861 enlisted in Company I, 25th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. He first served in the Army of the Cumberland,—participating in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge,—and was with General Sherman from Chattanooga to Atlanta; later he was in the Army of the Southwest. His military service lasted thirty-nine months, and he bore throughout an honorable record. After the close of the war he attended school for one year, in Chicago, and subsequently taught school for a year. He was then employed as deputy county treasurer of Champaign county for three years. He next entered the First National Bank of Champaign, where he was engaged for two years, after which he removed to Parsons, Kansas. In 1872 he entered the First National Bank of Parsons, and continued with that institution until 1878, having worked his way up to the position of assistant cashier. The Parsons Commercial Bank was reorganized in 1878, and E. H. Edwards was made president; H. A. Wade, vice-president; and George W. Hawk, cashier and manager. The bank was.

formerly known as the Parsons Savings Bank, and was organized, in 1874, by J. J. Pierson, H. A. Wade and others. The capital stock was fixed at \$50,000 and still remains at that figure, with a surplus of \$30,000. Mr. Hawk has continued as cashier and manager since its reorganization, and much credit is due to him for its present prosperous condition, which stamps it as one of the most stable banks of the county.

Mr. Hawk was united in marriage, in 1875, to Linna J. Hodges, of Parsons. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order, and has taken the Knight Templar's degree. He is a Republican, in politics, and was city treasurer from 1886 to 1901, and treasurer of the board of education from 1883 to 1901. He is an enterprising and progressive citizen, and has been active in his support of many enterprises tending to develop the city.



MARTIN VAN BUREN HOOVER, a gentleman of great prominence in Labette county, Kansas, is located on a farm near the town of Chetopa. He has been engaged in the stock business in connection with his brother, William G. Hoover, since 1866, and has made a grand success of it. He was born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1841, and is a son of George W. Hoover.

George W. Hoover was born in Virginia, in 1810, and when a boy moved to Ohio, with his parents. In 1830, he was united in marriage with Pamela Rosier, and they had five children, two of whom, the subject hereof and William G., are prominent men of Labette county. His wife died, and he married a second wife,—Mary Swallow, in 1846, and then

moved to Iowa, where he accumulated a large property by investing in government lands. In 1852 he moved to Texas, and located 15 miles from Fort Worth, in Tarrant county, on the Clear Fork of the Trinity river. There he witnessed the betting of a negro child on a horse race, and this caused him to change his politics from Democratic to Republican, as he could not support the party that tolerated such diabolical traffic. He was against secession, and about 30 men came to his ranch to take him dead or alive, but he found safety in a panther's den, where he lay forty days,—food being taken him by the subject hereof. He escaped through Mexico, carrying with him several hundred dollars in gold to Iowa, where he remained until the close of the war, which conflict caused him enormous losses. He then returned to Texas, but not finding it pleasant to live there, he journeyed to Chetopa, Kansas, in February, 1867, where he lived until his death, January 19, 1878. He was a Methodist, and helped to build the church at Chetopa.

Martin V. Hoover remained at home until he reached the age of nineteen years, and then engaged for himself in the cattle business, which has constituted his life occupation. In 1861 he moved with his cattle to Shackelford county, Texas, and remained there until 1866. He was there during the stirring scenes of the war, and his ranch was also raided, as was that of his brother. He was imprisoned for some days, but his brother, being the assessor, escaped imprisonment, although he also was arrested. They now have a horse ranch in Haskell county, Texas, and among the horses is a car-load of standard-bred Clydesdale horses which they shipped there. In 1866 the partnership of W. G. Hoover & Brother began, and has since continued,—the business being

very extensive. In 1880 the subject hereof decided to locate in Labette county, and purchased his present home property in Richland township, just south of Chetopa,—comprising the northeast quarter of section 9, township 35, range 21,—which he has finely improved. He completed his handsome 11-room house in 1887, and his it equipped with bath rooms and other modern conveniences. He has a telephone connecting him with his brother's house, and with Chetopa and all adjacent towns. He now handles about 200 head of cattle, cultivates 113 acres, has an excellent orchard of eight acres, 15 acres in meadow, and the rest is in blue grass and clover. His property is well equipped for successfully carrying on his business, having large barns, granaries and windmills. He and his brother own about twenty farms in Labette and Cherokee counties.

Mr. Hoover was married, on January 14, 1875, in Shackelford county, Texas, to Martha A. Mathews, who was born in Stephens county, Texas, in 1860, and is a daughter of J. B. and Caroline (Spears) Mathews, formerly from Alabama. Her father died in 1895, aged seventy-two years. Her mother still lives in Shackelford county, Texas, and is seventy years of age. Her great-grandmother lived to reach the wonderful age of one hundred and four years. Mr. and Mrs. Mathews were parents of the following children: Elizabeth, wife of G. T. Reynolds, president of the First National Bank of Albany, the county seat of Shackelford county, Texas, and also the owner of large stock and land interests; John A., of Albany, Texas, a member of the firm of Mathews & Blanton (the latter being an attorney), who deal in lands, loans and live stock and do a general insurance business; Mary (Brown), who is a widow, of Albany, and has three children; Martha A., wife of the

subject hereof; Susie, wife of W. D. Reynolds, vice-president of the First National Bank of Albany, Texas, and an extensive stock dealer; Ella (Conrad), a widow, of Albany, Texas; and Joseph, who died in Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoover became the parents of seven children, as follows: Caroline Leona, born October 2, 1876; George William, born July 22, 1879, who is in the grocery business at Coffeyville, Kansas; Joseph Alexander, born November 20, 1880, who is in school at Sherman, Texas; Wilfred M., born October 19, 1881, who is in school at Chetopa; Manor, born September 30, 1888; Mathews Valentine, born February 14, 1891; and Martin R., born August 9, 1894. Politically, the subject of this sketch is a Republican and has been a member of the school board in District No. 61. Fraternally, he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of Chetopa. In religious belief, he is a Methodist.



D. SHELburn, a successful and well known farmer of North township, Labette county, Kansas, living on the east half of the southeast quarter of section 23, is a native of Sullivan county, Indiana, and was born in 1838. His father, C. Shelburn, who was born in Spencer county, Kentucky, married Cassandra Bennett; they had seven children, namely: Barthadia; Melissa; M. D.; Curtis; Mary; Melsina; and Cassandra.

M. D. Shelburn was reared and educated in his native state, and lived there until he reached the age of nineteen years. He learned farming when a youth, and has followed that occupation all his life. In 1857 he went to Edgar county, Illinois, where he was engaged

in agricultural pursuits for ten years, and at the end of that period moved to Labette county, Kansas. He bought his present farm and has successfully cultivated it ever since. He keeps abreast of the times, and uses modern implements to assist him in his toil. He has always been a hard working man, and success has come entirely through his own efforts.

Mr. Shelburn married Deborah Branam, who was born in Monroe county, Indiana, in 1840. Her parents, who were James and Nancy (Griffith) Branam, reared the following offspring: Jonathan; Deborah; Louis; Franklin; Mary E.; and Ellen. Mr. Shelburn and his wife have two children, Charles E. and Mary. The subject of this sketch is a member of the Christian church. Politically, he belongs to the People's party.

**E**LISHA H. WELLS, a justice of the peace, and a well known farmer, in North township, Labette county, Kansas, has for many years been one of that county's most active workers. He was born in Edgar county, Illinois, in 1842, and is a son of E. and Jane (Elledge) Wells.

E. Wells, the father of Elisha H., was born in Kentucky, in 1807, and his wife was born in that state in 1811. They reared the following children, namely: Albert; Riley; Angeline; Clarissa; John; Elisha H.; Isabel; Martha; and Elijah.

Elisha H. Wells was reared and schooled in his native county, and at an early age began to learn farming. He left Illinois when he was twenty-four years old, and moved to Labette county, Kansas, where he settled in Neosho township. There he farmed until 1872, when he moved to North township, and bought his present home, the west half of the

southwest quarter of section 36. There he has carried on general farming ever since. He is a thorough, conscientious worker, and has been very successful in his occupation. He is well informed on all matters pertaining to agriculture and his advice is often sought in regard to such subjects.

Mr. Wells was united in marriage with Mary Slane, who was born in Cincinnati, in 1850. She is a daughter of A. and Mary (Bradford) Slane. Mr. Wells and his wife have been blessed with the following children: Ida, deceased; Edgar, a mailing clerk at Parsons, Kansas; Bertha; John; Anna; Ethel; Leon; and Ray. Edgar attended the normal school at Fort Scott for three years.

Mr. Wells is a staunch Democrat, in politics. He has been trustee of Neosho township two terms, and is at present a justice of the peace. He ran for the district clerkship on the first Democratic ticket voted in Labette county, which was in 1866. He belongs to Parsons Lodge, No. 48, Modern Tontines. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian church.

**F**RED B. CAMPBELL, a prosperous and highly respected farmer residing in section 14, Mount Pleasant township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Jackson county, Missouri, and was born in 1861. He is a son of William and Elizabeth (Babbitt) Campbell.

William Campbell was born in Brockton, Canada, in 1833, and was engaged in mercantile pursuits for a number of years. He died in Denison, Texas, in 1883. His wife bore him four children, namely: Fred B.; Anna (Park), of Princeton, Illinois; William, of Whatcom, Washington; and Lizzie (Porter), of Great Bend, Kansas.





HEZEKIAH A. WADE.



Fred B. Campbell lived in Jackson county, Missouri, but a few months, when his parents moved to Champaign, Illinois, where they remained until 1866. His parents then moved to Clinton, Canada, in 1869, and later to Sedalia, Missouri. In 1871, they located at Chetopa, Kansas. In 1873, his parents moved to Denison, Texas, where Mr. Campbell was employed in the postoffice. He started as mailing clerk, and filled all positions up to assistant postmaster. He left Denison in 1884, and located in Larned, Kansas, where he worked in the postoffice one year. He was then employed on the road as postal clerk for a year, and afterward embarked in the stationery business. Subsequently, Mr. Campbell sold out that concern and went to Port Townsend, Washington, where he was engaged in the hotel business for six months. He next moved to Tacoma, where he again engaged in the stationery business. From Tacoma, he went to Wichita Falls, Texas, where he was employed as chief clerk in the freight offices of the Fort Worth & Denver City Railway. In 1892, he returned to Kansas, and settled in Edwards county, where he remained for a period of two years. In 1894, he located in Labette county, Kansas, where he bought and settled on the farm where he now resides. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has been very successful. He has a neat and attractive farm, which is always kept in good condition.

Mr. Campbell was united in marriage with Lillian Sunderland, of Bloomington, Illinois. She was born in 1870, and a daughter of Alfred and Sarah (Lamme) Sunderland, of Blue Mound, Kansas. Mr. Sunderland was born in Dayton, Ohio, in 1842, and his wife was, also, a native of that city, where she was born in 1845. They reared three children, namely:

Della, a resident of Larned, Kansas; Nellie, living at Blue Mound, Kansas; and Lillian, the wife of Mr. Campbell. The subject of this sketch and his wife are the parents of seven children, as follows: Ethel; Blanche; Winfield; Alfred; Richard; Howard, deceased; and Nathaniel.



EZEKIAH A. WADE, vice-president of the Parsons Commercial Bank, whose portrait is herewith shown, has been living a retired life in the city of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, since 1890. He was a bricklayer by trade, and built many of the first brick buildings of the community.

Mr. Wade was born in Bedford county, Virginia, in 1828, and is a son of Alexander Wade. He was reared and schooled in his native county, and early in life began to learn the trade of a brick-mason. He served his apprenticeship in Campbell county, Virginia, and afterward went to Richmond, Virginia, where he lived a few years and plied his trade. He then moved to Petersburg, Virginia, and resided there until 1869, when he moved to Kansas, locating at Chetopa, Labette county. He remained there but one year, after which he settled in Parsons, where he has since resided. He laid the first brick in the city of Parsons,—which was in the old Belmont Hotel chimneys,—and has also built many of the best business houses which are still standing,—including the opera house, Masonic Temple, and Third Ward school building. He was engaged actively at his trade until 1890, and in these years of industry put by a handsome competency,—enabling him to retire and enjoy the comforts of life in his declining years. He was one of the original stockholders, and a director of the Parsons Savings Bank, or—

ganized by Joshua Hill in 1874, and was one of the incorporators of the Parsons Commercial Bank, in 1878. He has since served as vice-president and director of the latter institution. Politically, he is a staunch supporter of Democratic principles. Fraternally, he is a Mason, and has risen to the rank of Knight Templar.

---

**J**OHAN W. PARK. This gentleman, living in the southwest quarter of section 4, is one of the prominent farmers of Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, and is highly respected by all in the community. He was born in Monroe county, Ohio, in 1841, and is a son of Walter Park.

Walter Park was a native of Scotland, and was born in 1798. He came to America in 1833, and settled in Monroe county, Ohio, where he died in 1863. He was a tanner by trade, and followed that occupation all his life. He was the father of the following children, namely: Nicholas and James L., deceased; Janet; James N.; John W.; Eliza J.; William S.; and Mary A.

John W. Park received his mental training in the common schools of Monroe county, Ohio, and lived there until 1864, assisting on the farm. Two years of this time were spent in New York City, where he was engaged as a florist. In 1864 he moved to Douglas county, Kansas, where he remained until 1867, when he came to Labette county, and settled in Fairview township. In 1882 Mr. Park was obliged to go to Arkansas for his health; after remaining there one year he returned to Kansas. He then bought the southwest quarter of section 4, in Oswego township, Labette county, and since that time has engaged in farming and stock raising. He has been very

successful, and is well known in the county.

Mr. Park was united in marriage with Elizabeth Barnard, in 1871. She was born in Porter county, Indiana, in 1842, and is a daughter of William Barnard. William Barnard was born in Surry county, North Carolina, in 1803, and died in 1887. He reared the following children, namely: Oliver; Nelson; Milo, deceased; Polly; Clinton; Rhoda; Uriah; Elizabeth; Job; Rachael, deceased; and Milton. Mrs. Park left Indiana in 1870, in order to join her brother, who had previously located in Labette county, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Park are the parents of the following children: William B., deceased; Clara; Walter; Edna; and Mabel. Mr. Park is a strong Prohibitionist. He is a member of the Methodist church.

---

**T**HOMAS N. SEDGWICK, who is a prominent member of the legal profession, located at Parsons, Kansas, is general attorney for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, an office he has filled in a most capable manner since 1889.

Mr. Sedgwick was born in Shelby county, Illinois, in 1848, and was reared and schooled in Moultrie county. He taught school a few years, and in 1870 located in Emporia, Kansas. He began the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in 1873. He then followed a general practice in Emporia, with such success that the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company tendered him the position of general attorney of the road, which he accepted January 1, 1889. During his practice at Emporia, he was first associated with C. N. Sterry, who is now general attorney for the Santa Fe

Pacific Railroad Company, and later, with Hon. L. B. Kellogg, formerly attorney general of the state of Kansas. Mr. Sedgwick took up his residence in Parsons in 1896, although he has maintained his office in the city since 1891. He is very prominent among the members of the legal profession of Labette county, and is held in high esteem by the citizens of Parsons.

In 1880, Mr. Sedgwick was united in marriage with Flora Frederick, by whom he has three children, as follows: Edith P., who is studying music in Chicago, Illinois; Fred S., a student; and Mary Alma. Politically, the subject of this sketch is a Republican, and while engaged in general practice took an active part in politics. He served as county attorney of Lyon county for six years.

---

**D**R. J. STANLEY TINDER. Among the prominent druggists and physicians of Parsons, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name appears at the opening of this sketch. For many years he has been one of Parsons' leading pharmacists, and is a specialist in hair, skin and scalp diseases. Naturally of a studious turn of mind, he has spent years in study and preparation for his profession, and is thoroughly competent to handle the large clientele which it is his good fortune to have. Dr. Tinder was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, in 1861.

Dr. Tinder received his primary education in his native county, and later attended the Danville Normal School,—graduating with the class of 1882. During the time he attended school, he was also clerk in a drug store. In 1882, Dr. Tinder went to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he worked as clerk in a drug store

for two years, and in 1884 attended Central College of Physicians and Surgeons. He then went to Parsons, Kansas, where he was employed as drug clerk, for three years. In 1888, he started in business for himself, and has conducted a drug store ever since. In 1897, Dr. Tinder took a special course at the Indiana Medical College, at Indianapolis, and a second course at the Chicago Physio-Medical College,—graduating with the class of 1898. He followed a general practice in connection with his drug business, but only for a short time. He then turned his attention to the specialty of hair, skin and scalp diseases, in which he has been very successful. He is a young man, and a bright future awaits him.

Dr. Tinder was united in marriage with Ella Ray, in 1886, and they have three children: Ray, Loyall, and Gail. Dr. Tinder is a member of the lodges of the A. O. U. W., Select Friends, and also of the Knights of the Maccabees, of which he is commander. He is a Democrat, in politics, and has served on the school board for three years, and on the board of health for two years. He is a very popular man in Parsons, and commands the respect of all who know him.

---

**D**R. JOHN W. TINDER, a distinguished member of the medical profession at Parsons, Kansas, was for many years engaged in general practice, but in more recent years has made a specialty of the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose, and throat. He was born at Danville, Hendricks county, Indiana, in 1864, and is a son of William Tinder, and grandson of Joel Tinder.

Joel Tinder was born in Virginia and there


married Martha Johnson, a cousin of President Andrew Johnson. They moved to Shelby county, Kentucky, and lived there until 1830, when they moved to Hendricks county, Indiana, where both died.

William Tinder was born June 11, 1821, in Kentucky, and died in Indiana, in March, 1884. He located on a farm in Hendricks county, Indiana, which his father had entered as government land; and there he lived the remainder of his days. He married Catherine Kennedy, a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of Jesse Kennedy, who was a native of England. In politics, he was a Democrat. The mother of Dr. Tinder still resides in Danville, Indiana. They reared a family of 12 children, 11 of whom reached maturity, and 10 of whom are now living.

Dr. John W. Tinder received his mental training in the district schools, and in Danville Normal School. He engaged in teaching for a period of four years, during which time he also pursued the study of medicine. He took a course of lectures at the Indiana Medical College, in Indianapolis, and graduated with the class of 1892. He spent the summer of 1889 and 1890 in Parsons, Kansas, where, after his graduation in 1892, he located permanently. Until 1895 he followed a general practice, and then took a post-graduate course in New York City. Since that time he has been a specialist in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and has acquired a remunerative practice. In September, 1899, he established the Parsons School of Suggestive Therapeutics. The purpose of this institution is to instruct physicians, dentists, lawyers, clergymen, teachers, trained nurses and other well educated people, in the science and art of Suggestive Therapeutics. A complete exposition of psychological medicine is given as

expounded by Liebeault, Bernheim, Moll, Hudson, Pitzer, and others. The psychological treatment of diseases and the production of anesthesia for surgical operations through hypnotic influence, are thoroughly elucidated by didactic lectures and practical demonstrations upon subjects before the classes.

Dr. Tinder was united in marriage, December 22, 1897, to Lottie M. Horr, of Parsons, and they have two children: Oneta F. and Jean K. The Doctor has been secretary of the board of health for a period of six years. Fraternally, he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; Modern Woodmen of America; Modern Tontines; Endowment Rank, K. of P.; and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

EORGE K. RATLIFF, who has been a prominent citizen of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, since 1878, is the leading real estate dealer of the city. He is an excellent business man, and possesses much shrewdness and foresight, as is evidenced by his many important transactions. He was born in Princeton, Caldwell county, Kentucky, in 1851, and is a son of R. B. Ratliff, president of the First National Bank of Princeton, Kentucky.

R. B. Ratliff was born in Meade county, Kentucky, in 1818, and was reared and educated in Bullitt county. He later became a banker of Princeton, and owned and operated a private bank for some years. He then organized the First National Bank of Princeton, of which he is president. He is a prominent Republican, and in early life was very active in politics.

George K. Ratliff attended the public





DR. PORTER W. BARBE.



schools and Forest Home Academy, and took a course in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. In 1871 he became cashier in his father's bank at Princeton, where he continued until 1878, and then located at Parsons, Kansas. He first engaged in the hardware business and followed it with good results until 1882. In 1886, he opened a real estate office, and has continued in that line ever since. He is a man of strict integrity and reliable in every particular, and the citizens of the community have unhesitatingly reposed their confidence in him.

Mr. Ratliff was united in marriage, in 1877, with Miss T. L. Walker, of Alton, Illinois, and they have one daughter, Laura Alberta. The subject of this sketch is an active worker in the interests of the Republican party, and while not desirous of holding office, he attends the various conventions and assists in shaping the policies of his party. He served some years in the city council. Fraternally, he is a member of the B. P. O. E.; Knights of Pythias; I. O. O. F.; I. O. R. M.; A. O. U. W.; and a number of other societies.

**D**R. PORTER W. BARBE, a gentleman who has been eminently successful as a practitioner of medicine, is located at Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, where he commands a large and lucrative practice. He is well qualified for his profession both by nature and by years of study in schools of recognized standing in this country, and his wide experience has given him a skill in diagnosing and treating complex cases such as but few men in the county possess. Dr. Barbe was born in Bristol, Trumbull coun-

ty, Ohio, in 1846, and is a son of Abraham and Lydia A. (Carlin) Barbe, and grandson of William Barbe.

William Barbe was born in Metz, Germany, and after his marriage came to this country. He settled in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, and later moved to Trumbull county, Ohio, where he was one of the earliest settlers. He died at the age of seventy-six years. His union with Mary Hammon, who died at the age of eighty-eight years, was productive of the following offspring: Jacob; William; Gabriel; Abraham; Peter; and Mary.

Abraham Barbe was born, reared and lived on the old family homestead in Trumbull county, Ohio. He was born September 17, 1809, and died January 7, 1868. He was a farmer and stock raiser, by occupation, and was a very successful man. He married Lydia A. Carlin, who was born February 5, 1813, and died March 25, 1884, and they became the parents of the following children: Mahala J. (Ives); William D.; Hannah M. (Shank); Walter T.; Sophia D. (Simpson); Joseph W.; Anna E. (Burton); Martin J.; Porter W.; Freeman D.; Celia A. (Nelson); Phoebe A. (Kibee); and Ida (Burton). He was an old-line Democrat, in politics, and a Universalist, in religious belief.

Porter W. Barbe received his primary education in the Western Reserve Seminary, at West Farmington, Trumbull county, Ohio, after which he attended Hiram College, in Portage county, Ohio. He first entered upon the study of medicine, in 1874, at West Farmington, with Dr. O. A. Palmer, now of Cleveland. In the fall of 1876 he entered the Columbus Medical College, at Columbus, Ohio, where he spent one year. He spent the two following years in the Cleveland Medical College, at Cleveland, Ohio, where he graduated

on March 6, 1880. He immediately began practice at Burg Hill, Ohio, where he continued for five years. At the end of this period he took a special course of study in the medical department of the Western Reserve University, of Cleveland, Ohio. In the spring of 1885 he located in Oswego, Kansas, where he has since practiced with great success. He soon established an enviable reputation as a physician, in addition to which he is looked upon, in private life, as one of Oswego's most worthy citizens.

On March 10, 1870, Dr. Barbee was united in wedlock with Florence G. Gordon, of Trumbull county, Ohio, and they have a daughter, Lulu Pearl. Fraternally, the Doctor is a member of the Knights of Pythias; Odd Fellows; Pyramids; Modern Woodmen of America; and the Rebekahs,—being medical examiner of all these orders. He is also examiner for six old-line insurance companies. He has represented each of the above named lodges at their respective state grand lodges. He is an honorary member of Trumbull County Medical Society; and of the Ohio State Medical Society; a member of the Kansas State Medical Society; and the Southeast Kansas Medical Society, of which he is ex-president. He is a Republican, in politics, and was appointed pensioner examiner in 1897,—having since served as secretary of the board. He has been a member of the local board of health for twelve years, and was a member of the board of education from 1886 to 1890. He served in the city council in 1891 and 1892,—being president of the council and chairman of the ordinance committee, for the revision of the ordinances under which the city now works. In the spring of 1900 he was again elected to the board of education, for a term of two years. He has been a member of the Christian church for thirty-three years, and of the official church

board for fifteen years. A portrait of Dr. Barbe accompanies this sketch, being presented on a foregoing page.

---


**R**OBERT B. GAY, who owns and conducts a fine farm in Mount Pleasant township, Labette county, Kansas, is a resident of the city of Altamont, where he has lived since 1883. He has been very successful in a business way, and is one of the foremost citizens of the town.

Mr. Gay was born in Clark county, Kentucky, December 11, 1834, and is a son of John and Rebecca (Bratton) Gay. John Gay was born in Virginia, and was a boy when he moved to Clark county, Kentucky, with his father, James Gay. There he was reared and schooled and followed farming for several years. He married Rebecca Bratton, and in 1837 they removed to Boone county, Missouri, where he died. They reared the following children: Ann D. (Yonger), deceased; Sarah J. (Vaghn), of Monroe county, Missouri; Robert B.; Lucinda (Newman), Margaret (Christman), David and William, deceased; and Nancy (Shock), of Boone county, Missouri. John Gay was a Democrat, in politics. Religiously, he was a member of the Church of Christ, and was an active church worker.

Robert B. Gay received his mental training in the schools of Boone county, Missouri, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1883. In that year he moved to Altamont, Labette county, Kansas, and has since made his residence in that city. He purchased a farm near Altamont, in Mount Pleasant township, which he has been occupied in cultivating. The farm is well improved, equipped with good substantial buildings, and has been very pro-

ductive. In politics, Mr. Gay is a prominent Democrat and an active worker for party success. He has served in the city council and was mayor of the city in 1890.

December 25, 1861, Mr. Gay was joined in matrimony with Miss L. F. Christman, who died in 1869, leaving two children: John R., of St. Louis, Missouri; and English A., of Centralia, Missouri. In 1883, the subject of this sketch was wedded to his second wife,—Mrs. E. F. (Coons) Morning. Religiously, he favors the Church of Christ.


ALTER S. FISHER, a prominent young liveryman of Oswego, Kansas, and a native of that town, was born October 21, 1880, and is a son of Samuel Fisher.

Samuel Fisher was a native of Ohio, and in 1870, located at Oswego, where he died in May, 1890. His brother, I. R. Fisher, accompanied him to Kansas; where they conducted a grocery store together. They freighted their goods from Kansas City, until the railroads were built. Mr. Fisher married Josie Scott, who after her husband's death, married J. M. Hart, who died in 1893. Samuel Fisher was a Republican, and an active worker in the party.

Walter S. Fisher attended the public and high schools of Oswego, and graduated from the Emporia Business College, in 1899. During 1896, 1897 and 1898, he was in Kansas City, at the O. N. Hunt stables, where he was engaged in racing. In the spring of 1899, he was occupied in St. Louis, and in October of that year returned to Oswego, and engaged in the livery business. He has a perfect knowledge of horses, having made a study of their habits, and having been among them for many

years. His partner in business was Mr. Holmes, but in March, 1900, Mr. Fisher bought out Mr. Holmes' interest. His livery-stable is first class in every respect, and is largely patronized.

Mr. Fisher is a member of the M. W. of A.; A. O. U. W.; and A. O. P.

R. J. M. KLEISER, a physician and surgeon of high repute throughout Labette county, is enjoying a very fine practice in Parsons, Kansas, where he is located. He was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, in 1849.

The early boyhood days of Mr. Kleiser were spent in Northern California, whither his parents had moved during the gold excitement. They returned to Kentucky in 1860. After obtaining his primary schooling he entered Washington & Lee University, which he attended for two years, and then continued his studies at the University of Virginia. He studied medicine at the University of New York in New York City, and graduated from the medical department, with the class of 1871. After a short rest, he began his practice at Parsons, Kansas, where he located January 9, 1872, and has resided ever since. His patronage is mainly from a high class of citizens, and his patients are also numbered as his friends. He enjoys their greatest confidence, and his ability is recognized wherever he is known. He has been local surgeon for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway ever since he located in Parsons. He is a member of the Southeastern Kansas Medical Society; the State Medical Society of Kansas; and the International Society of Railway Surgeons.

Dr. Kleiser was united in matrimony with

Elizabeth H. Reynolds, who died March 10, 1896, leaving four children: Max, Karl, Fritz and Hugh. The Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity, as far advanced as the Shrine. In politics, he is a staunch and unwavering supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. He has served as city physician, and on the board of health. During President Hayes' administration, he was U. S. pension examiner. This position he held for 16 consecutive years.

**P**ERRY S. WHITE, who has large business interests in Labette county, Kansas, is located at Parsons, where he has the oldest lumber yard in the city. In addition to this, he conducts a branch lumber yard at Dennis, and also a hardware store. He is possessed of exceptional business ability, and his different ventures have been attended with the greatest success.

Mr. White was born in Warrick county, Indiana, in 1859, and is a son of James P. and Rachael (Gwaltney) White, and a grandson of John and Catherine (McCard) White. Catherine (McCard) White died in 1832, leaving but one child, James P. John White formed a second union, February 19, 1833, by wedding Elizabeth Eckles, who was a daughter of Samuel and Nancy (White) Eckles. This union resulted in the following offspring: Samuel M., Catherine M., Nancy, Martha, John G., and Thomas B. The family moved to Warrick county, in 1849.

James P. White was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, and moved to Indiana, before his marriage. His early life was spent in teaching school, after which he followed farming in his native county. He was born in

1832, and died in 1896. He married Rachael Gwaltney, who was born in Ohio in 1834, and died in 1899. She was a daughter of John and Mary (Moore) Gwaltney, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter, of Pennsylvania. John Gwaltney left his native state and went to Ohio, when young. In 1857, he went to Spencer county, Indiana, and there reared a family of 15 children. He lived to reach the age of eighty-five years, and his wife reached a greater age. James P. White and his worthy wife became the parents of the following children: Rose B. (Heim), deceased; George W., who resides on the old homestead in Warrick county, Indiana; Perry S.; Sarah, deceased; and Jesse, deceased. He favored the Whig and Republican parties, and was a Presbyterian in religious belief.

Perry S. White was reared and schooled in his native county and followed farming until 1881. He came west in February, 1881, and was employed by C. F. Hodgman, who conducted a lumber yard at the present place of business of Mr. White. Mr. White was yard manager, and in 1886 bought out his employer, having purchased the land on which the business is located, in 1891. He has the first established lumber concern in Parsons, and does a very extensive business. He has a branch lumber yard at Dennis, Labette county, which he started in February, 1896, when he began his hardware trade there, also. He was one of the organizers of the State Bank of Parsons, in 1898, and has since been a director, and served as secretary of the board of directors. He is a member of the Missouri and Kansas Association of Lumber Dealers.

November 6, 1882, Mr. White was joined in matrimony with Mattie A. Barker, of Parsons, by whom he has had five children, as follows: Herbert, deceased; Walter G.; Fay;






FRANKLIN D. HOWE.



Helen; and Laura, deceased. He is a Republican in politics. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, of which he was formerly a commander; and of the Knights of Pythias, of which he served as treasurer for six years.

Mr. White and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church, of Parsons. The former was a delegate to the grand lodge which was held in Kansas City, May 21, 1901. He was also a delegate to the grand lodges held at Pittsburg, Kansas, and Iola, Kansas.


RANKLIN D. HOWE, a highly respected citizen and farmer residing in section 23, Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, whose portrait is herewith shown, is one of the leading agriculturists of the county. He was born in Brighton, a suburb of Boston, Massachusetts, October 1, 1839, and is a son of Stillman Howe, and grandson of William S. Howe. The latter was a Revolutionary soldier.

Stillman Howe was born in Brighton, Massachusetts, in 1806, and followed the trade of a stone-mason all his life. He built several stone buildings in Boston. His death, which occurred at the age of forty-five years, was caused by the falling of a stone, while he was at work on a bridge pier. He married Harriet Perry, of Boston, and she also died at the age of forty-five years. They reared the following offspring: Henry H.; Hollis; Harriet, deceased; and Franklin D., the subject of this sketch.

Franklin D. Howe spent his boyhood days in his native town, and at the age of twelve years was thrown upon his own resources. He first worked in a boot and shoe factory at

Milford, from 1852 to 1859, and in the latter year went to Chicago. There he obtained work in a boot and shoe factory, in which he remained until 1866. Desiring a more suitable climate, as he was not strong, and concluding to try the West, he finally settled in Labette county, and bought a farm in section 23, Oswego township, where he is successfully carrying on general farming.

Mr. Howe was united in marriage, in 1870, with Eliza Hogoboom, who died in 1873. In 1878, he married Mary F. Roe, a native of Greene county, New York. She is a daughter of Gideon Roe. Mr. and Mrs. Howe have two children,—Allura and Alma,—both students. Mr. Howe is a member of the A. F. & A. M. In politics, he is a Republican, and although he is actively interested in the work of his party, he will not accept public office. He has served in various township offices, and was, at one time, sheriff of the county, in which he has a host of warm friends.

LIJAH T. READ, a prominent business man of Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, is vice-president of the Oswego State Bank, and has served as such, and also as a director, since its inception, having been one of its organizers. He is, besides, the leading hardware merchant of the city, and has been engaged in that line there continuously since 1868, when he first settled in Kansas.

Mr. Read was born in Vernon, Jennings county, Indiana, in 1841, and is a son of Samuel and Nancy (Threlkeld) Read. Samuel Read was a native of Virginia, where he was born in 1801; journeying thence, he became an early settler of Owen county, Kentucky.

While residing there, he was married and soon after settled at Vernon, Jennings county, Indiana. He followed contracting and building during his early career, and constructed nearly all of the first buildings in Vernon. He afterward engaged in mercantile business, which he followed with much success for many years. The last years of his life were spent in retirement. He crossed the plains in 1850, and was engaged for five years in mining and merchandising in California. He was originally a Whig, in politics, and later, a Republican,—at one time serving as judge of Jennings county. He was a member of the Baptist church, in which he was a regular attendant and active worker. He died in 1875, aged seventy-four years. His wife was born in 1801, and died in 1848. They were parents of nine children (of whom the subject hereof is the only one now living), namely: William, who died in 1868; Hiram T., who died in 1900; James S., who died in 1897; Wilson M., who died in California; Virginia (Wells), who died in 1895; Merrit, who died in 1892; John S., who died in 1880; Elijah T.; and Martha, who died young.

Elijah T. Read was reared and schooled in Vernon, Indiana, and in 1868, journeyed west to Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, where he became associated with his brothers, John S. and Merrit, in the hardware, stove and implement business. The firm name was originally Read Brothers, and continued thus after the withdrawal of Merrit Read from the partnership, in 1879. John S. continued as a member of the firm until his death in 1880, since when the subject of this sketch has conducted the business under the name of the E. T. Read Hardware Company. He has always had a thriving trade and the store, fully stocked with a general line of hardware and complete in

all its appointments, commands the patronage of the leading citizens of Oswego and vicinity. He was one of the original stockholders of the Oswego State Bank, and, as before mentioned, has been a director and vice-president since its incorporation.

Mr. Read was joined in matrimony in 1864, with Sarah Vawter, a daughter of Smith Vawter, of Vernon, Indiana, and they have had the following children: Virginia; Alice; Smith H.; Daisy B.; and Bert W. Virginia (Reamer) resides at Oswego, and has two children: Roscoe R. and Virginia K.; Alice died at the age of two years. Smith H., who attended the Oswego High School and the State University of Indiana, and who is now with the Union National Bank of Kansas City, Missouri, married Mabel Adams. Daisy B. (Sprague) lives in Gashland, Missouri. Bert W., who was educated in the Oswego High School and in Ottawa University, is now in business with his father. Mr. Read is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In politics, he is a staunch Republican; religiously, he is a member of the Baptist church.



N. BARROWS has been engaged for many years in the real estate business in Parsons, Kansas, where he is the leading dealer in city property.

Mr. Barrows was born near Batavia, Genesee county, New York, where he was reared and received his primary intellectual training. At an early age, he became identified with mercantile pursuits in connection with his father, William H. Barrows, at Attica, New York. In 1875 he relinquished this business and went

west to Hannibal, Missouri, where he entered the auditor's office of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad. In 1878 he severed his relations with that company, and located at Parsons, Kansas, where he was employed in the office of the Osage Coal & Mining Company. With that company he remained until it was sold to the Missouri Pacific Railway Company, in 1885. He then formed a mercantile partnership with B. R. Van Meter. In addition to this, the firm dealt quite extensively in real estate. In 1890 Mr. Barrows purchased his partner's interest in both branches of the business. He sold the mercantile interest, in 1891, to N. Weil & Company, and retained the real estate department. To this and insurance matters he applied himself, and purchased large tracts of land and blocks of city property. January 1, 1899, in company with E. B. Stevens, cashier of the First National Bank, he purchased the entire interests of the original town company. The town company of Parsons was, at the outset, promoted by Col. R. S. Stevens, now deceased, and H. D. Mirick, now vice-president of the First National Bank. Although there were other stockholders, these gentlemen held a controlling interest and finally acquired all the stock. The company was formed in 1871, and the town site was laid out the same year. It comprised four sections, the extent of the present city limits. Mr. Barrows manages the business of the company, and also the real estate and insurance business of the firm of Stevens & Barrows. He has always been interested in the development of the city, and has assisted in the establishment of business enterprises tending toward that end. He was active in promoting the M. F. Smith Manufacturing Company, in 1886, established for the manufacture of hickory handles of all kinds. In 1898 he was as-

sociated with E. B. Stevens and D. H. Brannon in organizing the Parsons Novelty Company, which manufactured the Brannon Combined Meat-Block and Bowl, of which Mr. Brannon is the patentee. Mr. Barrows is treasurer of the company. Fraternally, he is a member of the A. F. & A. M.; R. A. M.; and the B. P. O. E. He is a man of excellent business qualifications, and has made friends of all with whom he has been brought into contact, both in business and social relations. Mr. Barrows was joined in matrimony, in 1870, to Kate E. Briggs, of Attica, New York, a daughter of Rufus and Caroline Briggs. They have had three children, as follows: Allan S., Mary S. and Rufus N. Allan S. is now in New York City, with the Riker Motor Vehicle Company; he married Ella Smith, of Parsons, Kansas, and they have one child, Caroline O. Mary S. is attending college in Buffalo, New York. Rufus N. is purchasing agent for the Washington, D. C., City Street Railroad Company. In religious belief, the family are members of the Episcopal church.

---

**J**ABEZ ZINK, a retired farmer, residing in Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Highland county, Ohio, in 1843. He was a son of John Zink, who was born in Highland county, Ohio, in 1793. The latter farmed in that county until his death, which occurred in 1843. He had a family of seven children, namely: John, deceased; Wilson; Allen; Mary (Brown); William, deceased; Robison, deceased; and Jabez, the subject of this sketch.

Jabez Zink was reared and schooled in Greene county, Illinois, having gone to that county in 1855. He lived there until 1862,

when he enlisted in Company K, 91st Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., in the Army of the Tennessee. He took part in the battles of Fort Morgan, Mobile, Fort Gaines, and was in several other engagements. In the fall of 1862 Mr. Zink was taken prisoner at Elizabethtown, Kentucky; he was later paroled and sent to Benton Barracks, at St. Louis. There he remained six months, after which he went to Vicksburg, and served under General Grant until 1865. He was then mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, and returned to Greene county, where he remained a short time. In the fall of 1865 he settled in Labette county, Kansas, on what is now the southwest quarter of section 30, in Oswego township. He lived there until 1884, carrying on farming and cattle raising. In 1884 Mr. Zink moved to Oswego, where he has since resided. He still retains his farm, and is engaged in the cattle business.

Mr. Zink married Mary Drake, who was born in Greene county, Illinois, in 1845, and is a daughter of Hiram Drake. Hiram Drake was born in Casey county, Kentucky, in 1803, and died there in 1886. He reared the following children, namely: William; deceased; Joel; deceased; Martha; deceased; Allen; deceased; Elizabeth (Taney); Benjamin; James; Luther; John and Nancy, deceased; and Mary, the wife of our subject.

Mr. and Mrs. Zink have had one child, Inez, who died at the age of two years. They, however, reared Sadie Millet, who was but six years of age when she came to their home. She continued to live with them until her marriage to John B. Zink, a nephew of the subject of this sketch. She now lives in Greene county, Illinois, and has one child,—Ruby,—a bright little girl of two years. Mr. Zink was one of the prime movers in organizing Labette county and was treasurer of the temporary or-

ganization. He has been city councilman since 1894. He is an active member of the Methodist church, and his friends in the county are legion. Mr. Zink is affiliated with Adams Lodge, No. 63, F. & A. M., of Oswego, and also with the chapter and commandery.

---

**J**ACOB M. STEMPLE. This gentleman, residing in North township, has for many years been one of Labette county's most prominent and influential farmers. He is a man of honesty and integrity, and is well known in the county. Mr. Stemple was born in West Virginia, in 1836, and is a son of Samuel and Sarah (Tomire) Stemple.

Samuel Stemple was a native of Virginia, where he lived all his life. He and his wife raised six children, namely: Louisa; Jacob; Margaret; Ann; Maria; and Evaline.

Jacob M. Stemple remained in his native state until he reached the age of nineteen years, during which time he followed the occupation of a farmer. In 1855 he went to Van Buren county, Iowa, where he carried on farming until 1871, when he moved to Labette county, Kansas. He bought in North township the east half of the southeast quarter of section 25, township 31, range 20, and has been very successful in cultivating this purchase. He has a neat and attractive farm, on which he has made many improvements in the past few years.

Mr. Stemple was wedded to Rebecca Cochran, who was born in Indiana, in 1837. Their union was blessed with seven children, namely: Ida; Anna; Frank; James; A. C.; Margaret; and George. Mrs. Stemple died in April, 1891. In 1897 Mr. Stemple married Elizabeth Hoover, a native of Illinois.

Mr. Stemple is a member of the Republican party, and takes an active interest in the politics of the county; he has served as road overseer several terms. He has been a member of the school board for the past twenty years. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church.

**F**RANK M. MANNERS, a prominent citizen of Labette county, Kansas, is a farmer by occupation, and lives in the southwest quarter of section 19, in Neosho township. Mr. Manners was born in Crawford county, Iowa, in 1857, and is a son of Thomas H. and Isabella (Smith) Manners.

Thomas H. Manners was born in Pennsylvania, in 1814, and was a wagon-maker by trade. In 1843, he moved west to Iowa, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1866, in the fall of which year he journeyed west to Labette county, Kansas, and located on the farm now owned by his son, Frank M., with whom he resides at the present time. He is a Republican in politics; he organized the first Sunday-school in the county. He was united in marriage with Isabella Smith, who was born in Pennsylvania, in 1819, and they became the parents of the following children: W. B., who was a school teacher for thirty-five years, and now resides in the Indian Territory; Margaret and Anna M., deceased; Elizabeth; William T.; Aretus J., a minister; John, deceased; Frank M.; and Isabel M., of Oklahoma.

Frank M. Manners first located in Labette county in 1866, and since 1870 has lived upon his present farm. He also owns another farm, in North township, the north half of the north-

east quarter of section 25,—on which he also is engaged in general farming. He stands high among his fellow citizens, and has many friends throughout this section of the county.

Mr. Manners was united in marriage with Clara A. Hester, who was born in Pennsylvania, in 1860, and is a daughter of Sylvester Hester, a native of Germany, who married Mary Batdorf. Mr. Manners and his wife are parents of the following children: Mary I., a teacher, now at home; Minnie M., a dress-maker, of Parsons, Kansas; Milton L.; Alfred B.; Ella M.; and Homer M. Politically, Mr. Manners is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and has served as trustee of Neosho township. Religiously, he is a Baptist.

**M**ILES H. McCAULOU. Among the well known and highly respected farmers of Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name heads this personal biography. He is a veteran of the Civil war, and his career during that period and since has been honorable and creditable, and entitles him to the highest commendation. Mr. McCaulou was born in Jennings county, Indiana, in 1839, and is a son of Miles Z. and Mary (Boston) McCaulou.

Miles Z. McCaulou was born in Virginia, in 1814. His wife was a native of Kentucky, and was born in 1816. They reared the following children: George W.; Miles H.; Mary A.; Nancy S.; Eugene A.; Andrew T.; Margaret J.; and Laura B. Mr. McCaulou was a farmer by occupation.

Miles H. McCaulou was reared and schooled in his native state. In 1861 he enlisted in Company H, 26th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf.



and was assigned to the Army of the West. He took part in the battle of Perry's Grove, Arkansas, and was also in the siege of Vicksburg. He was mustered out in 1865, after which he returned to his home in Indiana, where he lived for two years. Mr. McCaulou then decided to go farther west, and accordingly moved to Greene county, Missouri, where he lived until 1873. He then moved to Labette county, Kansas, where he bought a farm in section 32, Neosho township. He lived there until 1888, when he sold the farm, and moved to Joplin, Missouri. His stay there was short, and another year found him again in Neosho township, where he had previously purchased the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 28. There he still lives, and is engaged in farming, the occupation he has followed all his life.

Mr. McCaulou married Mary (Williams) Fisher, who was a native of Polk county, Missouri, and was born in January, 1856. By a former union, Mr. McCaulou reared three children, as follows: Harry T., Joseph E. and George L. Mr. McCaulou is a Republican in politics, and has served as clerk of Neosho township. He was also candidate for township trustee one term. He is at present a member of the school board, and held the office of justice of the peace for one term. He belongs to the G. A. R., Parsons Post, No. 7. He is also a member of the Anti-Horse Thief Association.

**H**OWARD SCOTT, a farmer living in section 24, township 31, range 18, in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, has been one of the prominent citizens of the county for many years. He is a son of William and Marian L. (San-

ford) Scott, and was born in Ohio, September 11, 1869.

William Scott was born in Williams county, Ohio, in 1844, and is a farmer by occupation. His wife was also a native of that state. They had five children, namely: Lovisa J. (Freshour), who lives in Labette county; M. Ernest; Manoah and Albert, deceased; and Howard.

Howard Scott remained at home,—assisting his father on the farm,—until he was twenty-one years old. He attended the schools of the county when he was not needed at home. In July, 1874, he moved with his parents to Labette county, where he has since resided. He was married at the age of twenty-one years, and settled on the farm where he now lives. He has been an energetic, thrifty worker, and his success has been entirely due to his own efforts. He raises considerable stock, and follows general farming. Mr. Scott has made many improvements on the farm, and it presents a well kept appearance.

Mr. Scott was married to Mary A. Craft, who is a daughter of John Craft. They have been blessed with four children, whose names are: Charles; Alonzo; John L.; and Emma. Mr. Scott is a member of the Populist party. Mrs. Scott is a member of the Baptist church.

**J**OHAN P. TRIMBLE, one of the prosperous farmers of Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, has a neat and well cultivated farm in section 18. He was born in Louisa county, Iowa, in 1853, and is a son of Porter and Elizabeth (Long) Trimble.

Porter Trimble was born in Pennsylvania, and in early life learned the trade of a cooper. His union with Elizabeth Long, also a native



of Pennsylvania, resulted in the birth of seven children, as follows: Azilka; Permelia; John P.; Ellen; Nora; Martha; and George.

John P. Trimble was but eight years of age when taken by his parents, in 1861, from his home in Iowa to McDonough county, Illinois. There he attended the public schools for a period of five years. In 1866 he returned to Iowa, where he resided until 1868, when he journeyed west, to Labette county, Kansas. He first located in North township and lived there until 1879, when he bought his present home in the southeast quarter of section 18, Neosho township. He is engaged in general farming and has met with great success. He is one of the substantial men of the community, and is well thought of by all.

Mr. Trimble was united in marriage with Mary Billings, who was born in Boone county, Iowa, in 1857, and is a daughter of Clinton and Polly (Wheeler) Billings. This union resulted in the following offspring: Charles; Nora, deceased; and Eva. Politically, Mr. Trimble belongs to the People's party. He served as trustee of Neosho township, in 1898 and 1899. He was also clerk of his township board for nine years. At present he is efficiently serving as overseer. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America; and to the Anti-Horsethief Association, of which he is treasurer. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian church.



WILLIAM CLINE, an extensive land owner in Labette county, Kansas, is one of the influential citizens of Dennis. He was born in Carroll county, Ohio, in 1839, and is a son of Daniel and Mary Ann Cline.

Daniel Cline was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was born in 1806. He was eighty-two years old when his death occurred in Dennis, Kansas, in 1888. His wife died in 1859, at the age of forty years. They raised these children: John, who lives in Indiana; Samuel, who lives in Tennessee; Polly, deceased; Daniel, who owns a large farm in Oklahoma; Margaret, who lives in Labette county, Kansas; William; Elizabeth, who lives in Labette county; Mary Ann, deceased; David, of Oklahoma; and Josiah, who lives in South Bend, Indiana.

William Cline was raised on a farm in Indiana, where he lived at the outbreak of the Civil War. He enlisted in the army, and served in Company K, 29th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., as a private, for three years and sixteen days. After the war he returned to Indiana, and engaged in the drug business. In 1877 he sold out his drug business, and with very little money set out for Kansas. He located in Labette county, where he commenced farming. In 1884 he opened a drug store in Dennis, which he conducted until 1897, when he sold it to Charles Moore. Since then he has devoted his attention to the care of his property. He owns two farms near Dennis, and a great deal of property in that town. He is a self made man, and has good cause to be proud of his success. He is a man of sound judgment and good business principles, and is highly respected in Dennis, where he is one of the most progressive members of the community. He is a stockholder in the Dennis Co-operative Store.

Mr. Cline is a Republican, in politics, but does not aspire to political office. He is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. The subject of this sketch is widely known in Labette county.

**D**AVID D. MARKLEY, who lives in section 2, township 31, range 18, Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the highly respected farmers of the county, and has lived in the county since January, 1881. He is a son of Francis and Mary Markley.

Francis Markley was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and his wife was also a native of that state. For nine years Mr. Markley bought and sold cattle and carried on farming in his native county. He then sold his farm, and bought a mill in Snyder county, Pennsylvania. He and his wife were the parents of four children, as follows: Henry, who lives in Millersburg, Pennsylvania; David, the subject of this sketch; Abraham, who lives in Snyder county, Pennsylvania; and Johnson.

David Markley remained with his parents in Snyder county, Pennsylvania, until January, 1881, when he left that county, and moved west. He located near Edna, Kansas, where he remained two years, after which he settled on his present farm in Osage township. He carries on general farming, and has one of the finest farms in the county. He has made many improvements, and keeps abreast with the times in all modern conveniences. Mr. Markley's farm presents a very thrifty appearance, and speaks well for its owner's careful management.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Hannah Spatz, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Spatz. She was one of nine children. Three sons have blessed their union, namely: William, Ammon and Charles. William is married and lives upon a farm in Osage township; his wife was Hattie Dack, and they have one child, Grace. Mr. Markley has been a member of the school board for the past eight

years. He takes an active part in church duties, and is highly respected by all who know him.

**F**INIS GOOD, who for many years was one of the representative farmers of Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, is at present living in the village of Dennis. He is a son of Jacob and Barbara (Barnhart) Good.

Jacob Good was a farmer by occupation, and served in the Civil war. He was born in 1818, and was killed at the age of forty-seven years, in 1865. He married Barbara Barnhart, and they reared four sons and two daughters, namely: John, who is a farmer; Jerry, who was killed by bushwhackers, in the same manner as was his father; David, who is a farmer; Mary; Martha; and Finis, the subject of this sketch.

Finis Good located in Labette county in 1882, and upon his arrival in the county was in very poor circumstances. Through hard work and close application to his affairs, he has been very successful. He now owns a farm, his home in Dennis, and a mill in that village. He also had two shares in a large creamery, which is located at Dennis, but sold his interest therein. He carried on farming until 1898, when he moved to Dennis in order to exercise a closer supervision over his business in that place. He is a self-made man, and deserves much credit, as his success has been due entirely to his own arduous exertions.


Mr. Good has been married twice, and by his first union was the father of five children. His oldest son, Silas, who takes care of his father's farm in Osage township, married Sarah Vickers, of Missouri, and has one child, Lillie. Another son, Everett, who lives in Labette





O. H. STEWART.


county, married Pearl Rogers. The others are Carl, Albert and Walter. Mr. Good has had five children by his second wife, whose name was Mary V. Dickey. Their names are: Earl; Bertha; Leona; Pearl; and Charley. Mr. Good belongs to the Sons and Daughters of Justice. He is a Republican in politics. Religiously, he is an attendant of the United Brethren church. He has a wide circle of friends in Dennis, and in Labette county.

 H. STEWART, for many years a prominent business man of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, is president of the Parsons State Bank, and of the Savonburg State Bank, at Savonburg, Allen county, Kansas.

Mr. Stewart was born in Allen county, Kansas, near Humboldt, in 1861, and received his intellectual training in the schools of his native county. He became sub-agent for the Sac and Fox Nations, and served as such during the years 1884 and 1885. In 1886, he located at Parsons, Kansas, and became a partner in the general merchandise establishment of W. L. Bartlett & Company. He continued as a member of this firm until 1897, when he sold his interest and went to Humboldt, Kansas, to settle the estate of Paul Fisher. He remained there until June, 1899, when he returned to Parsons, and in November, 1899, with the assistance of F. H. Foster, organized the Parsons State Bank. The bank was incorporated with a paid up capital of \$25,000, and the officers are, O. H. Stewart, president; and F. H. Foster, vice-president and cashier. Although a young institution, judicious management has made it a safe and profitable one. It enjoys the patronage of many of the lead-

ing citizens of Parsons, and of Labette county at large. Mr. Stewart enjoys the confidence of the community to a marked degree, and has many friends throughout the county.

In 1887, the subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Kate F. Fisher, a daughter of Paul Fisher, of Humboldt, Kansas, and they have four children, as follows: Lyman O., Ellsworth F., Harold, and Paul. Fraternally, Mr. Stewart is a member of the Royal Arcanum, and of the Elks. He is a Republican, in politics, and takes an active interest in both local and national affairs. He is city treasurer, and also treasurer of the board of education, of Parsons. His portrait accompanies this sketch.

 LBERT TROESTER is a prominent farmer and blacksmith, residing in the southeast quarter of section 19, Liberty township, Labette county, Kansas. For many years he has been one of the most progressive citizens of the county, and gives assistance to all public enterprises which are for the good of the community. Mr. Troester was born in 1832, in Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Germany, of German parentage.

Frederick Troester, his father, was born in Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, in 1809, and died in Perry county, Illinois, in 1896. He married Elizabeth Kaulh, who was also a native of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Germany, and was born in 1806. She died in Perry county, Illinois, two years before her husband's demise. They reared the following children: Albert, the subject of this sketch; Louisa (Millhausen), of Perry county, Illinois; Fred and George, twins,—the former a resident of Crawford county, Kansas, and the latter being deceased;

Jane, deceased; Bennet, of Perry county, Illinois; and Louis, living in Missouri.

Albert Troester, the subject of this sketch, came to America in 1848, landing in New Orleans. The same year he went to St. Louis, where he lived for five years, and learned the trade of a blacksmith. In 1853 he went to Perry county, Illinois, and a year later to St. Clair county, in that state, where he made his home for seven years. In 1861 Mr. Troester moved to Washington county, Missouri, where he enlisted in Company E, 10th Reg., Mo. Vol. Inf., and was attached to the Army of the Tennessee. In 1862, he was detailed as head blacksmith of the 6th Wisconsin Battery, and was mustered out at St. Louis, in 1864. Mr. Troester then returned to Washington county, Missouri, where he opened a blacksmith shop, and did a large business for eight years. In 1872 he located in Labette county, Kansas, settling in the southeast quarter of section 19, in Liberty township, where he has since carried on general farming, and has also done blacksmithing. He is a superior workman, and is largely patronized. He is a man of strong personality, and his friends in the county are many. He is kind and generous, and ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need or distress.

Mr. Troester was wedded to Theresa Schmidt, who was born in Prussia, in 1834. She is a daughter of Ferdinand Schmidt, who was born in Prussia in 1811, and died in that country in 1848. Mr. and Mrs. Troester have had six children, namely: Wilhelmina, deceased; Frank, deceased, whose offspring were,—Ed, Albertina, Will, Mamie, Lizzie, and John, deceased; Frederick, of Joplin, Missouri, whose children are,—Ernest, Charles, Mabel, Lewis, and Bert; Albert, of Labette county, the father of two children, Earle, and Fay; Lizzie (Weber), of Ottawa, Kansas,

whose children are,—Masabella and Flora; and Julia (O'Fall), of Labette, Kansas, whose children are, Franika, and Georgia.

Mr. Troester is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the G. A. R. In religious belief he and his wife are devout Catholics.

**B**ENJAMIN TALLMAN, a representative farmer of Walton township, and a prominent citizen of Labette county, Kansas, is a pioneer settler of this section of the state, having purchased his claim in the fall of 1870, entering it at the official agency at Independence, Kansas. Since 1900, Mr. Tallman has made his home in Labette county, with his daughter, Mrs. C. D. Tallman, in the northwest part of Labette township, but still owns and superintends his farm in Walton township. Benjamin Tallman was born in Burlington county, New Jersey, in 1828, and is a son of Woodmansee and Elizabeth (Reed) Tallman.

Our subject's father was a farmer by occupation, and both he and his wife were natives of New Jersey. They reared a large family, 11 children in all, namely: Joseph; Francis A.; Thomas W.; Benjamin; Charles H.; Samuel; Ezra; Carlisle H.; Rachel M.; Wesley; and Levi P.

When Benjamin was but three years old, his parents moved to Logan county, Ohio, where they continued to live until 1861, and where the subject hereof was reared and schooled. During that time, he learned the double trade of carpenter and wagon-maker, which he followed successfully for a number of years. In 1861, he removed to Union county, Ohio, which was his home for the following nine years.



Mr. Tallman then came west, in 1870, and located permanently in Walton township, Labette county, Kansas. The journey covered a period of thirty days. In 1871 Mr. Tallman erected the buildings which are still standing on his farm, with the exception of the house which was burned down in 1883, and a new one has been built in its stead. All the carpenter work on these was done by him. He continued to cultivate and improve his farm during his long residence there, and carried on general farming, setting out orchards, etc.

He was united in marriage with Elizabeth Stratton, who was born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1828. She died in 1879, leaving him the following 11 children: Lenora N.; Joel; Rachel M.; Ann C.; Eliza C.; Emma J.; Samuel A.; Elizabeth H.; Margaret M.; Malatta; and John W. The two last named are deceased. Politically, Mr. Tallman is a Democrat, and still takes an active interest in all affairs of a political nature. He is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. The subject of this sketch has been very successful, and is regarded as one of the most practical agriculturists of his township. He has won success by his ability, and because he possesses, in a great degree, the perseverance which makes men successful. He is greatly esteemed for his high character and has hosts of friends, who look upon his prosperity as fully deserved.

**H**ENRY BASHELIER, owner of one of the largest manufacturing concerns in Labette county, Kansas, located at Parsons, has been one of the leading business men of that city for a number of years. He manufactures hickory handles of all kinds, turns out wagon materials, and also

runs a box factory. Mr. Bashelier was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1845.

He was reared and schooled near Fort Wayne. His father operated a sawmill in that town, and Henry worked in the mill during his early life. When the war broke out, he was desirous of enlisting in one of the home companies, but as his parents objected he decided to run away from home in order to join the army. In the spring of 1864, he enlisted in Company L, 3rd Reg., Mass. Heavy Artillery, at Boston. Their service was garrison duty at Washington, D. C., and Alexandria, Virginia. Mr. Bashelier was mustered out in 1865, after which he went to Baltimore, Maryland, where he worked in a handle factory, for two years. In 1867, he went to Owosso, Michigan, where he engaged in business under the firm name of Wood, Bell & Bashelier, handle manufacturers. In 1869, this firm dissolved partnership, and Mr. Bashelier returned to Baltimore, where he worked until 1873. In that year, he went to Bryan, Ohio, and again engaged in the manufacture of handles, remaining there until 1876, when he sold his business and moved to Auburn, Indiana. He conducted a hotel and grocery business in that place for three years. In 1879, Mr. Bashelier moved to Kansas, and locating at Paola, where he engaged in the manufacture of handles, under the firm name of Bashelier & Campbell. In 1891 he closed out his business in Paola, and located in Parsons, where he organized the M. F. Smith Manufacturing Company. In 1899 Mr. Bashelier leased the plant, and since that time has conducted the business under his own name. He manufactures hickory handles of all kinds, and also wagon materials. In the spring of 1901, he established, in connection with the handle factory, a box factory. He employs competent men, and does a large business.

Mr. Bashelier married Cecelia Amsbaugh, in 1875, and they have two children, W. Ira and Goldie M. Mr. Bashelier is well known in Parsons, and throughout this section of the state, and is greatly esteemed for his honest, upright business character and his qualities as a public spirited citizen.

**J**OHN F. WASKEY, a prominent and influential citizen of Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, and the proprietor of a gentlemen's furnishing store in that place, is a native of Van Buren county, Iowa, and was born February 24, 1843. He is a son of Alexander and Nancy (Purdom) Waskey.

Mr. Waskey's grandfather, John Waskey, was born in Virginia, at Natural Bridge. He was a miller and farmer by trade. Some of the Waskey family now reside at Waskey's Mills, Virginia. Alexander Waskey, the father of John F., was born in 1814 in Rockbridge county, Virginia, where he was also reared and mentally trained. In early life, he moved to Keosauqua, Van Buren county, Iowa, where he lived until 1854, and afterward located at Westport, Missouri. There he died, in 1879, at the age of sixty-five years. He followed mercantile pursuits,—having a store in Westport,—and in 1861 moved his stock of goods to Emporia, Kansas, and sent his son, John F., to that place, to act as clerk in the store, although he continued to reside in Westport. In politics, he was a Democrat, until after the war, when he became a Republican. He married Nancy Purdom, who was born in North Carolina, in 1816. She now lives in Westport, Missouri. They were the parents of the following children, namely: John F.;

Virginia (Hurst); Thomas P., a merchant of Pittsburg, Kansas; Amanda (Goslin); Mary I.; and Sarah M. (Smith).

John F. Waskey, whose name heads this personal sketch, went with his parents to Westport, Missouri, in 1854, and as before mentioned, went to Emporia, Kansas, to serve as clerk in his father's store, in 1861. There he remained until the fall of 1867, when he moved to Oswego, Kansas. In partnership with his brother, Mr. Waskey started a store, but in 1873 the partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Waskey has since conducted the business alone. He carries a full line of shoes and gentlemen's furnishings, and has a large patronage.

Mr. Waskey was united in marriage, in 1866, to Sarah E. Sager, of Westport, Missouri, and they have two children, namely: Dick S., who was born in 1867, and is now manager of the Deming Investment Company, at Colfax, Washington, where he has lived since 1892; and Blanche (Elliott), who is a resident of Sherman, Texas. Politically, Mr. Waskey is a Democrat, and has served as city treasurer, and as mayor, since his residence in Oswego. He is a public spirited man, and takes an active interest in the welfare and development of the town.

**D**R. ALBERT SMITH, a successful young medical practitioner of Parsons, Kansas, is well known to the residents of the city where he has been located ever since his boyhood days. He made careful preparation for the medical profession in some of the best schools of medicine in this country, and in practice has given evidence of skill not equaled by men of many more years' experience.

Dr. Smith was born in Erie, Kansas, July 24, 1870, and is a son of Irvin Smith, now a druggist of Parsons. He was a small boy when he accompanied his parents to Parsons, where he received his primary education in the public schools, and under the private tutelage of Prof. Hickson, of Parsons. He then took a course of study in the State University of Kansas, at Lawrence, which was supplemented by a course in the Philadelphia (Pennsylvania) School of Pharmacy, where he graduated with the class of 1890. He then became associated with his father, in the drug business, at Parsons and continued thus from 1890 until 1892. He then attended lectures at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in Chicago, Illinois; and took a second course of lectures at the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, —graduating with the class of 1895. He began the practice of medicine at Parsons, in the spring of 1895, and has been successful beyond his fondest expectations.

In 1896, Dr. Smith was united in marriage with Nannie E. Cowden, of Parsons. Fraternally, the Doctor is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America; and the B. P. O. E. Politically, he is a Republican.

**A**BRAM C. LOPER, one of Oswego's progressive citizens who has resided in the city since 1878, is extensively engaged in cattle dealing. He was formerly engaged in farming in the county, but retired from that vocation, although he still owns a farm of 160 acres in Liberty township.

Mr. Loper was born in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1845, and is a son of Joseph and Sarah (Sommers) Loper. Joseph Loper was

born in Harrison county, Ohio, and moved west, to Van Meter, Dallas county Iowa, where he died in 1891, aged seventy-six years. His wife was Sarah Sommers, a native of Western Pennsylvania, who died at an early age, having borne him the following children: John S., deceased; Esther (Fred), deceased; Eliza (Hogue), and Benjamin, who live in Belmont county, Ohio; Abraham Clark; and Cyrus, deceased. Mr. Loper served in various township offices, and was a Republican in politics. He was a member of the Christian church.

Abraham C. Loper received his mental training in the public schools of his native town, and then engaged in the stock business in Ohio, marketing at Wheeling, West Virginia, and Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. He moved to Labette county, Kansas, and in the spring of 1874 purchased the northeast quarter of section 21, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township. He resided upon this property and was engaged in agricultural pursuits for four years. At the end of that period, he moved to Oswego, where he has since resided. He sold his farm in Elm Grove township, and purchased 160 acres in section 2, Liberty township, which he still owns. At present he is not engaged in farming, but devotes his energies to the cattle trade, in which he has been decidedly successful. He is a man of admirable character, and has many friends throughout this section of the county.

In 1869, Mr. Loper was married to Florence Waters, and to them were born two children: William C. and Winifred, both of Oswego. Mrs. Loper died January 7, 1890. In April, 1895, Mr. Loper married Mary E. Millican, of Mound Valley, Kansas. Fraternally, the subject of this sketch is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; Inde-

pendent Order of Odd Fellows; and Knights and Ladies of Security. He is a Republican, in politics, and served as deputy to Sheriff J. W. Bennett, from 1893 to 1897. Mr. Loper was also engaged in the cattle business in the Indian Territory during the first years of his residence in Labette county.



W. RYAN. This gentleman is a member of the firm of C. A. Wilkin & Company, engaged in the real estate and abstracting business in Parsons, Labette county, Kansas. The members of the firm are widely known throughout the county, and this section of the state, and their transactions are carried on in a manner which bespeaks their honesty and upright principles. They do a large and profitable business, each year finding them with a greater amount of work on hand. Mr. Ryan was born in De Kalb county, Alabama, in 1869, and is a son of Albert M. Ryan, who is still a resident of that state.

C. W. Ryan received his education in his native state, where he lived for a number of years. In 1887, he went to Washington, where he engaged in the lumbering business in the district of Puget Sound. The following two years were spent at Fair Haven, Washington, where he was engaged in the real estate business. In February, 1891, Mr. Ryan located in Parsons, where he opened a real estate agency. In October, 1892, he formed a partnership with C. A. Wilkin, and attended to abstracting and real estate matters under the firm name of C. A. Wilkin & Company. Mr. Ryan is a man of splendid business ability, and his career in this line has been marked with great success. He is a young man, and

there are prospects of a brilliant future before him.

Mr. Ryan was united in marriage with Eva M. Heacock, a daughter of Dr. James Heacock, of Parsons, and they have been blessed with three children, namely: Annie, Asa and Harry. Mr. Ryan is a member of Pioneer Lodge, No. 12, K. of P.; and also of Camp No. 844, M. W. of A. Politically, he is a firm supporter of the Republican party.



GEORGE L. TOMS, a successful farmer and coal operator, living in section 26, Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, is a gentleman of sound principles and strict integrity. He was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, in 1866, and is a son of Abner J. and Eleanor (Weaver) Toms.

Abner J. Toms was a native of Maryland, where he was reared and mentally trained. After his marriage, he located in Montgomery county, Ohio, where he remained until 1876. He then moved to Bates county, Missouri, and in 1882 to Longton, Elk county, Kansas, where he died at the age of sixty-nine years. His wife still resides in Longton. They reared the following offspring, namely: Mary L.; Laura B., deceased; Lizzie; Emanuel; Frank; John; George L.; and Charles.

George L. Toms moved with his parents to Kansas, when they located in Elk county, in 1882. He followed farming in that county until 1889, when he went to Arkansas City, Cowley county, and engaged in the hay, grain and coal business. This business he followed for four years, and then returned to farming and cattle raising. In 1900, he moved from Elk county to Labette county, and located on

a farm in section 26, Oswego township, where he is now engaged in farming and operating a coal bank. During 1901 Mr. Toms expects to take out 20,000 bushels of coal. He has been quite successful, and is considered a very good farmer. During his short residence in the county he has won many friends through his genial manners and his upright dealing with all.

Mr. Toms was united in marriage with Etta B. Freeman, in 1887, and they have been blessed with five children, namely: Grace; Ray and Ruth, who are twins; Clara; and Levi. Mr. Toms is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge. Politically, he is a Republican.

**A**SA SMITH, a well known and prosperous real estate dealer of Parsons, Kansas, has been a resident of the city almost continuously since July, 1871.

Mr. Smith was born in Wabash county, Indiana, in 1853, and thence went with his parents, at the age of ten years, to Urbana, Ohio. He accompanied the family to Kansas in 1868, and staid for about six months in Woodson county, where his father located a claim. He next went to the town of Erie, Neosho county, in the fall of 1868, and was with the Southwestern Stage Company for three years. In 1871, he located in Parsons, Labette county, where he has since resided, with the exception of four years. He was engaged in railroading for eleven years. In 1883, he was elected register of deeds, and his term expired in 1888. He then started in the real estate and loan business for himself, and has been very successful from the beginning. He also does some farming and stock raising.

He is a man of high character, and is well liked by all with whom he comes into contact, both in business and social relations.

Mr. Smith was joined in matrimony, in 1884, with Emma Scholl, of Parsons. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a Republican, in politics, and was supervisor of the census of 1900 for the Third Congressional District of Kansas.

**S**COTT TAYLOR, a prominent jeweler of Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the most progressive citizens of the town. He is a public spirited man, lending his assistance to all movements which are for the development and advancement of the community. Mr. Taylor was born in Fowler township, Trumbull county, Ohio, December 10, 1855, and is a son of Hannibal Taylor, who was a native of Massachusetts.

Scott Taylor received his primary schooling in his native county, and in 1871 went from Ohio to Towanda, Butler county, Kansas, to live. He was engaged in clerical work there for several years, and in 1876 decided to locate in Oswego. Accordingly, in that year, he moved to Oswego, and embarked in the jewelry business. He has carried on that business successfully ever since, and has a large patronage. His stock is of the best, and his manner of dealing with customers is characteristic of the man, who is thoroughly imbued with honesty and the spirit of fair dealing. In connection with the jewelry store, he also conducts an optical department.

Mr. Taylor was united in marriage, in 1876, with Clara Wheeler, a daughter of George Wheeler, of Butler county, Kansas.



They are the parents of three children, namely: A. Ray, who assists his father in the store; Merle C., who is with Montgomery & Company, of Oswego; and Wayne W., a student. Mr. Taylor is a member of Adams Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., of Oswego. Politically, he is a Republican, and held the office of city treasurer from 1891 to 1901, when his last term of office expired. He is a director of the Oswego State Bank.

**J**OHN H. RUST, a prosperous and progressive business man of Altamont, Labette county, Kansas, is extensively engaged in dealing in lumber, hay and grain, and owns a large elevator and feed-mill in the city. He is a native of Cambridgeshire, England, where he was born in 1851, and is a son of John H. and Eliza (Burgess) Rust.

John H. Rust, Sr., was born in Cambridgeshire, England, and there was reared and received his intellectual training. In 1852, after his marriage to Eliza Burgess, he came to America, and settled in Genesee county, New York, where he resided until 1864. He then settled on a farm in Jasper county, Missouri, where he died at the age of sixty-four years. His widow resides at Altamont, Kansas. They reared the following children: Arthur J., a resident of Mount Pleasant township, Labette county, Kansas; Edith S. (Ryan), of Pettis county, Missouri; John H.; Eliza (Fowler), deceased; Elizabeth (Dalton), of Junction City, Kansas; and William, Hattie and Mattie, deceased.

John H. Rust received his school training in the district schools of Genesee county, New York, and Jasper county, Missouri. He lived in the latter county until 1874, when he located

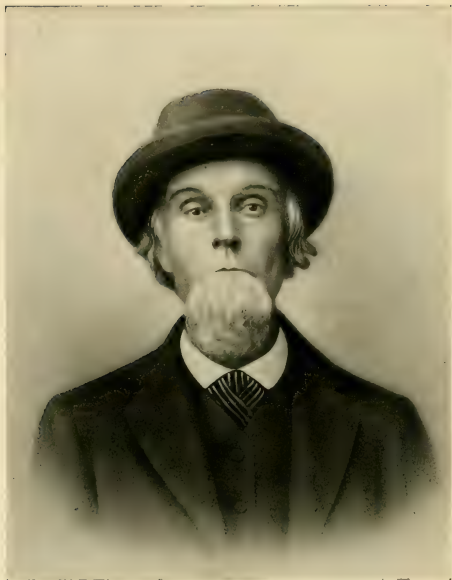
in Labette county, Kansas, and settled in section 9, Mount Pleasant township, where he farmed until December, 1900. He was engaged solely in farming until 1891, when he also embarked in business at Altamont, and commenced dealing in lumber, hay and grain, having purchased the lumber yard of R. L. Sharp. In the fall of 1900, he decided to give up farming and to devote his entire attention to his other business interests, which resulted in his removal to Altamont. He still owns the farm but rents it. He built a new elevator and feed-mill, which was ready for operation in January, 1900. It has a capacity of 65,000 bushels of grain, and is thoroughly equipped in modern style. He handles an immense amount of grain, and is one of the largest dealers in Labette county. The aggregate of his transactions exceeds that of any other business man of Altamont. He is shrewd, energetic and enterprising, and his trade is constantly increasing.

In 1878 Mr. Rust was united in marriage with Stella Driggs, a daughter of William Driggs, of Clinton, Missouri, and they have three children,—Leonora, Milburn and Ralph. The subject of this sketch is a strong advocate of Populistic principles, but, although an active party worker, does not care to accept office. He served a term as township treasurer. Mr. Rust, in religious views, is a Methodist.

**A**RTHUR J. RUST, a prosperous farmer living in section 9, Mount Pleasant township, Labette county, Kansas, has for many years been one of the leading agriculturists of the county. He has an attractive farm, which he has spent years in cultivating, and being a progressive man he has







JOHN N. PARKER.

kept abreast of the times, and availed himself of the modern improvements in farming implements. Mr. Rust was born in Cambridgeshire, England, in 1849, and is a son of John H. and Eliza (Burgess) Rust.

John H. Rust was born in Cambridgeshire, England, in 1823, and died in Labette county, Kansas, in 1886. His wife, Eliza (Burgess) Rust, was also born in England, in 1827, and is now living in Altamont, Kansas. They reared the following children, namely: Arthur J., the subject of this sketch; Edith S. (Ryan), of Pettis county, Missouri; John H., a resident of Altamont, Kansas; Eliza (Fowler), deceased; Elizabeth (Dalton), of Junction City, Kansas; and William, Hattie and Mattie, deceased.

Arthur J. Rust came with his parents to America in 1852. They located in Genesee county, New York, where they lived on a farm until 1864. In that year they moved to Winnebago county, Wisconsin, and in 1868 to Pettis county, Missouri. The family remained in Pettis county for four years, and then went to Jasper county, Missouri, where they lived three years. Their final location was in Labette county, Kansas, where Mr. Rust settled on his present farm. He has been quite successful since he established his residence in Labette county, and is well known in the community as a man worthy of the respect and esteem accorded him.

Mr. Rust was united in marriage with Louisa Watkins, who was born in Dade county, Missouri, in 1856. They have no children, but have raised a niece, whose name was Ella Spittler. She married John Stagmeir, and has two children,—Alva and Charles. Mrs. Rust was the daughter of David Watkins, who was born in North Carolina, in 1821. His death occurred in Oregon, in 1889. His children were: Thomas, Clinton, Martha (Spittler),

and Josephine, all deceased; Louisa; Orlena (Smith), of Joplin, Missouri; Perry, living at Orlando, Oklahoma; Charles, a resident of Alva, Oklahoma; Lorenzo, of Webb City, Missouri; and David and Winter, twins, deceased.

Mr. Rust is a member of the Populist party, and is the present township trustee. He belongs to the A. O. U. W. lodge, and is an active member of the Methodist church. His friends are legion.

**J**OHAN N. PARKER. Among the prominent agriculturists of Labette county, Kansas, is John N. Parker, who owns a very productive farm in Walton township, comprising the southwest quarter of section 27, where he has carried on general farming since 1869. He was born in the Empire State, in 1822, and is the eldest son born to Nathan and Polly (Doubleday) Parker.

Nathan Parker was a native of Vermont and served in the War of 1812. His wife was born and reared in the state of New York. Four children were born to this worthy couple, namely: John N., the subject of this brief biography; Joe; Ruth; and Elizabeth.

John N. Parker received his primary mental training in his native county. When twelve years of age, his parents removed to Jackson county, Michigan, where he lived for twenty years. When grown to manhood, he determined to fit himself for a professional career and studied medicine for, perhaps, a year and a half. But the idea of becoming a doctor did not continue to appeal to him, and he discontinued his studies in that line and returned to farming,—an occupation to which his life has since been devoted.

Leaving Michigan to seek a location far-

ther west, he settled in Benton county, Iowa, where he farmed for fifteen years. In 1869, he went south, to Kansas, making the trip overland at the cost of about \$200. It cost him \$8 to stay one night at Osage Mission, Kansas. In 1870 Mr. Parker located upon the farm in Walton township, which is now his home, and where he has spent many of the best years of his life.

Mr. Parker has been twice married. His first union was with Mary Norton, of New York. She died in 1864, leaving eight children as a legacy to her husband. Their names are: Frank, Orville, Charles, Joel, Rosa, J. Q., Josephine, deceased, and Belle. The mother of these children was buried on the same day that Abraham Lincoln was the second time elected to the presidency. In 1867, Mr. Parker married his second wife, whose maiden name was Caroline Mitchell. She was born in Benton county, Iowa, and is a daughter of William and Sarah (Broady) Mitchell. Her father was a farmer, and reared eight children, as follows: Hannah, Mary, Sophronia, Abbi, Mercy, Caroline, Emma, and Henry S. Six children were the result of the second marriage of Mr. Parker, namely: Clara, Florence, Fred, Mabel, Livona and Harlow.

Mr. Parker and his wife are devout members of the Christian church and are known to be among the most charitable citizens in the community. In his political convictions, Mr. Parker is an ardent Democrat, and never loses sight of the interests of his favorite party. He has almost attained the four-score years allotted to man, and his many friends hope he may live to reach the century mark. With a well spent career behind him, full of usefulness and good deeds, he is passing through the sunset period of life in the quietude of reflection, and is looking forward, with steadfast faith, to the glories

awaiting him beyond. A portrait of Mr. Parker is shown on another page of this work in proximity to this.



JOHN BICKNELL, the founder of the city of Bicknell, Indiana, and one of the old settlers of Labette county, Kansas, is a man of varied and interesting experiences. He is an entertaining conversationalist, and his friends are eager listeners to his reminiscences of pioneer days. Mr. Bicknell was born in 1823, in Knox county, Indiana, where he lived until his removal to Labette county, Kansas, in 1879. His parents were Mumfred and Nancy (Ashby) Bicknell.

Mumfred Bicknell was born in Kentucky in 1796. He moved to Knox county, Indiana, where he died in 1853. He married Nancy Ashby, a native of Mercer county, Kentucky, who was born in 1798. She also died in Knox county, Indiana, in 1876. They reared the following offspring: James and Christiana, deceased; John, the subject of this sketch; Samuel and Josephus, of Knox county, Indiana; Alfred, of Labette county; Mumfred, deceased; Austin, of Liberal, Missouri; and Hibbard, Polly (Goodman), David and William, deceased.

John Bicknell began his career as a farmer, and followed that occupation until 1871, when, in company with a Mr. Slater, he engaged in mercantile business. He was the third man to set up a place of business in Bicknell, Indiana. He carried on a general store in that town until 1878, and in 1879 moved to Labette county, Kansas, and settled on the farm where he now resides. He has followed the occupation of a farmer since that time, and is well

informed in all agricultural matters. His farm presents a neat and attractive appearance, and speaks well for its owner's thrift and good management.

Mr. Bicknell was united in marriage with Eliza A. Chancellor, who was born in Mercer county, Kentucky, in 1823. Her father, John Chancellor, was also a native of that county, having been born in 1800. He died fifty-six years later. John Chancellor's wife, who was Polly Thomas, was also a native of Mercer county, and was born in 1802; she died in Knox county, Indiana, in 1877. Their children were: Eliza A., Isaac, Will, John, Elias, and James, all deceased.

Munford, the oldest son of John Bicknell, served in the Civil War, and was wounded at the battle of Perryville, Kentucky. He now lives in Knox county, Indiana, and his daughter, Cora (Moss), lives in Labette county; Mrs. Moss has two children, Walter and Floyd. Mumfred Bicknell's other children are named: Clarence, Roy and Sailie,—the first two being the offspring of his first marriage. John Bicknell's other children are: Mary (Goff), of Labette county, the mother of Lillie (Davis), of Oklahoma, whose children are Ralph and May; Brighton, who has two children, Floy and Evaline; Nancy (Reel), of Labette county, who has one child named Denver; John, of Knox county, Indiana, who has three children, Homer, Ottie and Flossie; Caroline (Copley), of Labette county, who has two children, Silvia and Roy; Lovisia E. (Chambers), of Knox county, Indiana, who has two children, Bertie and Carrie; William, of Labette county; Benoni, deceased, whose children are Edgar and Raymond; and Florence (Robertson), of Liberal, Missouri, whose children are, Blanche, Cleo and Bernice.

Mr. Bicknell is a member of the Republican

party. He has been an active member of the Baptist church for the past sixty years. He is surrounded by a large circle of friends.



SHELBY WILLIS, one of the prominent and influential farmers identified with the growth and development of Labette county, resides in section 20, Liberty township. He is a native of Shelby county, Kentucky, and was born in 1832. When but three years of age, he moved with his parents to Marion county, Indiana, where he received his early mental training. In 1843, his parents moved back to Shelby county, Kentucky, where they remained until 1851. In that year, they went to Fountain county, Indiana, and later to Marion county, Iowa. In 1855 they located in Jefferson county, Iowa, and six years afterward moved to Union county, Iowa. Shelby Willis enlisted in Company L, 3d Reg., Iowa Vol. Cav., in 1864, and was mustered out at Atlanta, Georgia, in 1865. At the close of the war, Mr. Willis returned to Union county, Iowa, where he resided until he located in Labette county, Kansas. He settled on his present farm, in 1894, where he has carried on general farming ever since. He is a man of sound judgment, and good business ability, and his agricultural career has been very successful.

Mr. Willis was married to Sarah J. Bradley, a native of Bond county, Illinois. She was born in 1836, and died in 1890. Her father, William Bradley, was born in North Carolina, in 1815, and died in Decatur county, Iowa, in 1891. Mr. Willis had 11 children by this, his first marriage. They were: Mary (Wilson), of Union county, Iowa, whose children are,—Lyman, Laura, Homer, Mattie,

Stella, Harry, and Clarence; William, deceased; John, of Adams county, Washington, the father of the following children: Chloe, Addie, Roe, Dean, Claude, and Hazel; Etha (Waln), of Holyoke, Colorado, whose children are,—Royce, Bruce, Floyd, and Joseph; Lucy (Kelly), of Adams county, Washington, whose children are,—Gilbert and Fay; Sarah (Bryant), of Labette county; James, of Adams county, Washington; Irna (Hoffman), of Cedar county, Missouri,—the mother of Neva and Veta; Ada, deceased; Hattie (Bicknell), of Adams county, Washington, whose children are,—Floyd and Forest; and Annie, deceased.

Mr. Willis formed a second union, in 1895, by wedding Mrs. Ary Christie, widow of Andrew J. Christie, who was born in Indiana, and died in Kansas, February 15, 1890. Mrs. Christie was born in 1833 in Mercer county, Kentucky. Her father, John Ryneron, was also a native of Mercer county, and was born in 1806. He died in Hendricks county, Indiana, in 1865. He married Elizabeth Cunningham, who was born in 1808, in Mercer county, Kentucky, and died, in 1849, in Hendricks county, Indiana. They reared the following offspring: William, James and Christopher, deceased; Ary, the wife of Mr. Willis; Jane; Mary, deceased; Elizabeth (Moon), of Hendricks county, Indiana; Sarah, deceased; Mattie (Cooper), of Hendricks county, Indiana; and Laura (Goss), deceased. Mrs. Willis, before her marriage to our subject, had reared 10 children, namely: John, deceased, whose children are,—Cosalia, Effie, Isaac, and Ary; William, deceased; Jennie (Potter), of Cherokee county, Kansas, whose children are,—Josie (Tower), of Pueblo, Colorado, Emma (Wadsack), Flora, Charles, Ary, Clara, Laura, Obad, Fred, Homer, and Irne; Wilson, deceased; Elisha, of Labette county, whose children are —Grace

(deceased), Daisy, Lizzie, William, Ernest, Raymond, Roy and May; Sarah (Kenworthy), deceased, whose children were,—Pearl, Frank, Charles, Florence (deceased), Clara, Emma (deceased), and Enoch; James, of Labette county; Albert (deceased), whose children were,—Sophia, Albert, and Samuel; Fred, who served in Company F, 34th Reg., U. S. Vol. Inf., 8th Army Corps, in the Philippine Islands; and Mary (Haggard), deceased, whose children were,—Richard, Harmon and Earle. Mr. Willis has been township trustee three terms, and justice of the peace and school director for fifteen years.

---

**T**HOMAS F. STICE, who lives on the southwest quarter of section 27, Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, is not only engaged in agricultural pursuits but in coal operating as well. There is a good vein of coal underlying his land, first discovered more than thirty years ago, and he still mines considerable coal. Mr. Stice was born in Madison county, Illinois, in 1858, and is a son of Shadrach and Lena (Hanes) Stice, and a grandson of Charles Stice.

Shadrach Stice was born in Greenwood, Kentucky, where he spent the early part of his life, and where he was married. He then moved to Madison county, Illinois, and several years later went to Scott county, Illinois, where he and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. He died at the age of fifty-six years, and she at the age of fifty-two years. His union with Lena Hanes resulted in the birth of the following children: William, who died from the effects of measles contracted while in the army, during the Civil War; John,



deceased; Mary (Killebrew), deceased; Margaret (Handback); Martin, deceased; Nancy, deceased; Samuel, deceased; George W.; Thomas F.; and James.

Thomas F. Stice spent most of his boyhood days in Scott county, Illinois, and at an early age learned the trade of a machinist. He worked in a machine shop for two years, after which he returned to the farm. In March, 1880, he traveled west, and located in Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, where he purchased 280 acres of land. Coal was discovered on this property more than thirty years ago, and at a former period considerable coal was mined and sold. After Mr. Stice came into possession, he again began the development of the coal banks, and at the present time markets a good deal of coal. His 280 acres are in one body, and underlying the property is a vein of coal running from 12 to 24 inches thick. He follows modern ideas in his farming, and has been very successful. Mr. Stice, besides farming, is also agent for the Page Woven Wire Fence Company, and has done considerable work in putting up wire fences. This has amounted to 12 miles since January 1, 1901. He has also purchased, in section 35, Oswego township, a farm of 42 acres, which is devoted to wheat. He is characterized by amiable traits, stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens, and has many friends throughout the county.

Mr. Stice was united in marriage, in 1881, with Lucy Caldwell, a daughter of James and Melissa Caldwell, of Montana township, Labette county, and they became parents of the following children: Fred, who died at the age of two years; Ada; Edward; Nora and Dora, twins; Carl; Pearl; Clyde; Margaret and Marie, twins, both of whom are deceased; Blanche; and Omar. Fraternally, Mr. Stice

is a member of Oswego Lodge, I. O. O. F.; and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a strong Republican, in politics, and an active worker in the party. He has served in an official capacity for a period of twelve years, having held the offices of township trustee, treasurer and clerk.



ALFRED BICKNELL, a prosperous and well known farmer, residing in section 17, Liberty township, Labette county, Kansas, has been one of the progressive and influential workers in the county, where he located in 1867, and has materially assisted in its growth and development. He was born in Knox county, Indiana, in 1829, and is a son of Mumfred and Nancy (Ashby) Bicknell.

Mumfred Bicknell was born in 1796, in North Carolina, and died in 1853, in Knox county, Indiana, where he had lived for a number of years. He married Nancy Ashby, a native of Mercer county, Kentucky, who was born in 1798. She also died in Knox county, Indiana, in 1876, having been the mother of the following children, namely: James; Christiana; John; Josephus; Samuel; Alfred; Mumfred; Austin; David; William, deceased; and George W.

Alfred Bicknell, whose name appears at the opening of these lines, received his mental training in his native county, where he lived until 1862. In that year he enlisted in Company C, 80th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served in the 23d Army Corps, in the Army of the Ohio. He was mustered out in 1865, having fought valiantly for his country. After the close of the war, Mr. Bicknell returned to Knox county, Indiana, where he remained two

years, and then moved to Labette county, Kansas, where he has since resided. He is engaged in general farming, an occupation he has followed all his life. He has a thorough knowledge of farming matters, and has been very successful. He has a large, well appointed farm, which is kept in excellent condition, and presents a fine appearance.

Mr. Bicknell was wedded to Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick, a native of Knox county, Indiana, who was born in 1836. She is a daughter of John and Sarah (Pender) Fitzpatrick. John Fitzpatrick was born in North Carolina, in 1790, and died in Knox county, Indiana, in 1845. His wife was born in Pennsylvania, in 1810, and died in Knox county, Indiana, in 1885. They reared the following offspring: James, Pleasant, Lucinda (Davenport), Thomas, John, Obid, and Daniel, deceased; Jane (Chancellor), of Knox county, Indiana; Mary E., of Labette county; Charlotte, deceased; Nancy (Richie), of Colorado Springs, Colorado; William S., of California; Sarah, of Sullivan county, Indiana; and Thompson, deceased.

Mr. Bicknell and his wife are the parents of 11 children, who are as follows: Joseph and Nancy, deceased; William; George W.; Morton; Marion and Grant, deceased; John; David E.; Judson; and Charles. William, who lives in Fort Scott, Kansas, married Sophia Jewell, and has the following children: Arthur; Myrtle; William; Hazel; and Blanche. George W., who resides in Neosho, Kansas, married Maggie Moore, and has the following offspring: Clyde; Alice; Amy; Ella; Fred; Pearl; Homer; and Walter. The name of Morton's wife was Lizzie MacIndoo, and she bore him two children,—Maud and Mont. John lives in Labette county. David E., who lives in Spo-

kane, Washington, married a Miss Goodman, and has one child,—Thelma. Judson, who lives in Labette county, married Dora Hoffman, and has two children,—Fred and Fern. Charles, who resides in Adams county, Washington, married May Willis, and has two children,—Floyd and Forrest.

Mr. Bicknell is a member of the G. A. R., and he is highly respected in the community, where he is considered one of its best citizens. He has many warm friends.

---

**J**OHAN A. FLORA, a prominent business man and farmer, who has been one of the leading citizens of Labette county, Kansas, is at present living in section 24, Liberty township. He has been a resident of Kansas since 1862, and has been largely identified with the growth and development of Labette county since 1868. Mr. Flora was born in Harrison county, Indiana, in 1845, and is a son of John and Amanda (Lentz) Flora.

John Flora was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, in 1800, and died in Bartholomew county, Indiana, in 1867. He married Amanda Lentz, who was born in Connecticut in 1808, and died in Bartholomew county, Indiana, in 1861. This union resulted in the birth of six children, namely: Volney, who lives in Hugo, Colorado; Josephine (Beauchamp), who lives in Paola, Kansas; Catherine (Muth), deceased; Daniel, who lives in Pueblo, Colorado; Margaret (Beauchamp), who lives in Denver, Missouri; and John A., the subject of this sketch.

John A. Flora was ten years old when his parents moved to Bartholomew county, Indi-

ana, where he received his primary education, and also attended Hartsville University, at Hartsville, Indiana. In 1862, Mr. Flora enlisted in Company C, 6th Reg., Ohio Vol. Cav., and was transferred to Leavenworth, Kansas, where he was assigned to special scout duty. Mr. Flora served as a scout in Colorado, the Indian Territory, Kansas and Nebraska during the war, and took part in many skirmishes with the Indians. He did valuable service, and was mustered out in 1865. In that year he located in Lyon county, Kansas, where he remained for three years, when he removed to Labette county, and settled in Oswego. There he leased and conducted the Condon Hotel for a period of twelve years. Since that time he has lived in section 24, in Liberty township.

Mr. Flora was united in marriage with Mary Shults, who was born in Dayton, Ohio, in 1850. She died in Lyon county, Kansas, in 1873. Three children resulted from this union, whose names are: Clarence, who lives in Independence, Kansas; Harriet (Gray), who lives in St. Louis, Missouri, and has two children,—Carl and Russell; and William, who lives in Carthage, Missouri, and has two children,—Harriet and Frances. Mr. Flora formed a second union by wedding Mrs. Ida C. Smith, in 1879. She was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1845. She has two children by her first marriage, namely: Peter W. Smith, who lives in Joplin, Missouri, and has one son,—Earl; and Lena (Clark), who lives in Oswego, Kansas, and has one son,—Elmer.

Mr. Flora is a faithful adherent of the Republican party, and the citizens of Labette county have shown their confidence in him by electing him register of deeds,—an office which he filled in an able manner. Mr. Flora is a member of the G. A. R., and of the M. W. of A.



R. JAMES W. HENDERSON, one of the leading physicians of Labette City, Labette county, Kansas, is a highly respected citizen of that town.

He enjoys a lucrative practice, and is known throughout the county. Dr. Henderson was born in Posey county, Indiana, in 1846, and is a son of William and Mourning (Ballard) Henderson.

William Henderson was born in Virginia, in 1804, and his death occurred in Posey county, Indiana, in 1849. His wife was born in Clinton county, Ohio, in 1814, and died in 1892, at Amo, Indiana. They reared two children: James, the subject of this sketch, and Sarah (Phillips), of Indiana.

Dr. James W. Henderson was but four years old when his mother moved to Clinton county, Ohio. In 1852 she went, with her family, to Hendricks county, Indiana, where the subject hereof received his early education. He graduated from the Indiana Medical College, at Indianapolis, in the class of 1876. From 1881 to 1884 Dr. Henderson was superintendent of the Indian schools of Pawhuska, Oklahoma. In 1884 he moved with his family to Labette county, Kansas, and located in Labette City, where he has since resided, and has practiced medicine continuously. He is an honest, upright and intelligent citizen, and has done much to better the condition of his town and county.

Dr. Henderson was united in marriage with Sarah Van Dyke, who was born in 1849, in Fillmore, Indiana. Her father was Quinton Van Dyke, who was born in 1812, in Kentucky, and died in 1884, in Tuscola, Illinois. His wife was Lucinda Brinton, a native of Kentucky, who was born in 1812, and died in Indiana, in 1870. They reared the following children,—Louisa (Ellis), deceased; Lorenzo,

of Huron, Indiana; John, of Tuscola, Illinois; Wallis, of Indianapolis, Indiana; Nelson and Mary, deceased; Jennie, living in Ottumwa, Iowa; Sarah; and Clara (Coughlan).

Dr. Henderson and his wife have had three children, namely: Lena M., deceased; Mabel R., of Labette City; and Chester, deceased. Dr. Henderson is a Republican, in his political belief, and fraternally, is a member of Labette Lodge, No. 488, I. O. O. F.; Modern Woodmen of America; and Daughters of Rebekah. He is medical examiner for several insurance companies.

**H**ARRY W. STARNES, a well known young druggist of Altamont, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Labette county, in 1872, in the northeast quarter of section 34, Mount Pleasant township. He was the only child of James and Elizabeth (Ingersoll) Starnes. James Starnes was born in Greene county, Indiana, in 1845, and is living in Colorado. His wife was also a native of Indiana, and was born in 1852; she died in Labette county, Kansas, in 1873. Harry W. was the only child resulting from this union.

Harry W. Starnes received his mental training in the schools of Mount Pleasant township, and in the high school at Oswego, Kansas. He learned the printer's trade, and worked at it for seven years before he began the study of pharmacy. He has been in the drug trade in Altamont for eight years, having a large and flourishing business. Mr. Starnes has been secretary of the Republican county central committee, and has also been city clerk and treasurer of Altamont. He has always been one of the active and zealous workers in the county, and is highly respected by all his

fellow citizens. Mr. Starnes married Susan Dodd, who was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1876.

**A**RATUS R. BRADFIELD, one of the leading business men in Altamont, Labette county, Kansas, is engaged in the hardware trade. He was born in Coles county, Illinois, in 1860, and is a son of J. P. and Martha J. (Carnell) Bradfield.

J. P. Bradfield was born in Indiana in 1834, and in 1850 moved to Coles county, Illinois. In 1872 he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and settled in Montana township. In 1874 Mr. Bradfield embarked in mercantile pursuits, and continued thus until 1896, when, he began farming, his present occupation. He married Martha J. Carnell, who was born in Indiana, in 1836. She died at Montana, Kansas, in 1881. They reared the following children, namely: Henry, of Parsons, Kansas; Rachael (Peak), of Parsons; Samuel, deceased; James, of Montana, Kansas; Aratus R., the subject of this sketch; Aggie (Barnes), of Augusta, Kansas; Joseph, living in New Mexico; Nellie, deceased; and Minnie (Kiter), of Parsons, Kansas. Mr. Bradfield married a second time, and the latter union resulted in the following offspring: Cleo, of Montana, Kansas; John, deceased; Carlos; and Flora, of Montana, Kansas.

Aratus R. Bradfield, whose name appears at the opening of this sketch, lived in Coles county, Illinois, until 1872, and attended the schools of that county. He assisted his father in farming for ten years, and in 1874 began his mercantile career, by assisting his father in their general store. In 1881 Mr. Bradfield went to Colorado, but remained only one year,





DAVID V. REED.



returning to Labette county in 1882, where he began farming. He continued at this occupation until 1889, when he engaged in the implement business in Montana, Labette county, and continued thus for a period of ten years. His next move was to Altamont, where he now resides, and is engaged in the hardware and implement business. He has a large number of patrons, with whom he deals honestly and fairly. His reputation as a man of just business methods has long been established in the county. Mr. Bradfield has a large, well stocked store, which is considered one of the best in the county.

Mr. Bradfield married Lucy Ammonds, in 1882. She was born in 1859, in Greenville, Illinois. They have had three children,—Clifford, deceased; Arthur M., of Altamont; and Edith C. Mr. Bradfield is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors.



DAVID V. REED, one of the hardy pioneers of Labette county, Kansas, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, located upon his present farm in 1867, and has since engaged in general farming and fruit growing. He was among the very first to settle in this section and has witnessed the wonderful growth and development of the county since that period. He has prospered with the county, and is now reckoned as one of the most substantial and influential men in the community. He was born in Union county, Ohio, in 1842, and is a son of James and Asenath (McWilliams) Reed.

James Reed was born in Union county, Ohio, in 1814, and died there in 1845. His wife, Asenath McWilliams, was born in Ohio in 1818, and died in Wilson county, Kansas, in 1887.

They reared six children, as follows: Joseph, deceased; Enos, of Douglas county, Kansas; Marcenias, deceased; Almeda (Molesworth), of Labette county, Kansas; David V., the subject hereof; and James, deceased. Mrs. Reed married a second husband, Thomas Long, by whom she had seven children: Mary, deceased; John, deceased; Samuel, of Montgomery county, Kansas; Arabella, deceased; Eliza, deceased; Flora (Handley), of Montgomery county; and Brumfield, of Wilson county, Kansas.

David V. Reed lived in Union county, Ohio, until 1850, when he moved to Lucas county, Iowa, and received a common school education in that state. In 1862, he enlisted in Company K, 34th Reg., Iowa Vol. Inf., and was in the battles of Vicksburg, Mobile, and many others. He was captured by the Confederates at Sterling Plantation, and taken to Tyler, Texas, where he was incarcerated for a period of ten months. In 1864, he was exchanged, and three days afterward participated in the battle of Sterling Plantation. He was mustered out in 1865, and returned to Lucas county, Iowa. There he remained on a farm until 1867, when he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and located upon his present farm on section 18, Liberty township. He has since engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has made a specialty of fruit growing.

Mr. Reed was united in marriage with Mary E. Collins, who was born in Grundy county, Illinois, in 1842, and is a daughter of Theron and Garetta (Van Dolson) Collins. Her father was born in Dutchess county, New York, in 1810, and died at Parsons, Kansas, in 1884. Her mother was born in Albany county, New York, in 1813, and died at Parsons, Kansas, in 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Collins

were parents of the following children: John, of Whatcom county, Washington; George, of Pawnee county, Nebraska; William, of Greenville, Texas; Edward, of Whatcom county, Washington; Mary E., of Labette county, Kansas; Margaret (Wood), of Parsons, Kansas; Catherine (Irwin), of Spokane, Washington; and Sarah, of Labette county, Kansas. Mr. Reed is a man of pleasing personality, and has many warm friends in Labette county. Politically, he is a Republican, having cast his first vote while in the army for Abraham Lincoln, and having voted with that party ever since. He is a member of the Anti-Horse-thief Association.

---

**R**UFUS DeGARMO, who was for many years a prominent farmer of Labette county, Kansas, is now living in retirement in the city of Oswego, Kansas. He was born in Ulster county, New York, in 1821, and is a son of Elias and Clemma (Powell) De Garmo.

Elias De Garmo was born in Dutchess county, New York, in 1788, and died in Rochester, New York, in 1876. He married Clemma Powell, who was born in Dutchess county, New York, in 1789, and died there in 1828. They reared the following offspring: John, Lydia, Mary, and Anna, deceased; Hannah (Albertson), of Sterling, Illinois; Rufus; and Peter and Jane, twins,—the former of Labette county, Kansas, and the latter deceased.

Rufus De Garmo received his education in Monroe county, New York, and at the age of twenty-three years went to Sterling, Illinois. He was clerk of Whiteside county, Illinois, from 1851 to 1857, and in 1861 removed to Shelby county, Illinois. In 1864 he enlisted

in the 149th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and was made quartermaster sergeant of the regiment. He served until the close of the war, and was mustered out at Camp Butler, Illinois, in 1866. He then lived in Shelby county, Illinois, until 1882, when he removed to Oswego, Labette county, Kansas. There he resided until 1884, and then moved to Coldwater, Kansas, where he was located for eight years. During this time he served as city clerk, for six years; as police judge, two years; and as justice of the peace, two years. In 1892 he returned to Labette county, Kansas, and is now living in retirement at Oswego. He was a good business man and a successful farmer, and has always stood in high favor with his fellow citizens.

Mr. De Garmo was first married to Laura M. Wilber, who was born in Peterboro, New York, in 1822, and died in East Troy, Wisconsin, in 1850. This union resulted in one son, Charles, who was president of Swarthmore College, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from 1892 to 1899. For the past two years Charles De Garmo has been a professor at Cornell University, and occupies a prominent position in educational circles. Our subject formed a second union by wedding Lavina Miles, who was born in 1827, and died in 1898, at Oswego, Kansas. Three children were the offspring of the second marriage: Caroline M. (Wiley); Alice (Smith); and Lida, who is at home.

---

**F**REDERICK BOSTELMANN, a well known and highly esteemed resident of Walton township, occupies a prominent place among the well-to-do farmers of Labette county, Kansas. He was born in Germany in 1844, and received his intellectual training in the schools of his native coun-

try. He followed farming during his early manhood, and in 1866, when twenty-two years of age, came to America. He landed at Baltimore, Maryland, and subsequently traveled inland as far as Ohio. Some time later he came west, to Iowa, where he remained for several years. In the fall of 1871 he located permanently upon the farm which is now his home. This farm comprises the northwest quarter of section 1, in Walton township, and is a tract of as finely cultivated land as can be found in the county. This land Mr. Bostelmann has spent the past thirty years in cultivating and improving. He carries on general farming, and raises all sorts of grain, some stock, and various kinds of fruit.

Mr. Bostelmann frequently refers to incidents of his experience in getting to Kansas, which was then but sparsely settled. While living in Iowa he was an employee on the Rock Island Railroad, and this fact enabled him to travel by rail as far as Omaha, Nebraska. From that point the trip down the Missouri river to Kansas City, Missouri, was made on a flat boat. The rest of the journey was pursued via Fort Scott to Labette county. In the fall of 1870, when Mr. Bostelmann first arrived in the county, he was accompanied by August Hoffman. They "bached" on the former's claim. Mr. Hoffman had purchased the adjoining claim, but still they "bached" together in a 12 by 14 feet box shanty. While away at supper on an adjoining claim, their shanty was set on fire by a posse of 16 men, who, it is thought, wanted to frighten Mr. Bostelmann and his partner away. They did not accomplish their purpose, as the former was not so easily scared, but at once set about to build a log cabin, which soon replaced the box house. The guilty parties were brought to justice, which soon settled all trouble.

Mr. Bostelmann had one brother, Henry, who fell in the German military service. Their father, George Bostelmann, was a native of Germany, and never left his native land.

Frederick Bostelmann was united in marriage with Theresa Minder, a daughter of Daniel Minder, a respected citizen of Springfield, Illinois. Four children have blessed their home. One daughter, Rosie, is deceased. Those living are Mary, Henry and Edna.

Mr. Bostelmann is a man of great industry as a farmer. Success has attended his every effort, and in pecuniary acquisition he has become one of the substantial men of his section. He is a member of the German Evangelical church, and, fraternally, affiliates with Parsons Lodge, No. 12, A. O. U. W. He is closely attached to the Democratic party, and exercises all his influence in behalf of the interests of that party. During his long residence in Walton township he has gained a large number of friends, who hold him in the highest esteem.



S. GETZENDANER, one of the early pioneers of Labette county, Kansas, has been located on his farm in Howard township,—the northeast quarter of section 14, township 35, range 17,—since the spring of 1869. He is a progressive citizen, and has contributed his share toward the great development of the county. He was born in Maryland, in 1849, and is a son of A. and Mary (Buckey) Getzendaner.

A. Getzendaner was born in Maryland and followed the business of a stockman and farmer. He married Mary Buckey, also a native of Maryland, and they reared eight children, as follows: W. H.; Anna W.; Laura V.; Mar-

shall, deceased; W. S.; Mary; Fannie S.; and Milton E.

W. S. Getzendaner was thirteen years of age when he left his native state for Illinois, where he resided until he settled in Kansas, March 17, 1869. He immediately located on his present farm, and built a cabin, 10 by 12 feet in size, and also broke some ground the first year. He entered his claim in 1871, and has since carried on general farming and stock raising; his first market was at Chetopa. He has an excellent orchard of 40 acres, and has made many other improvements. His original cabin was replaced by his present two-story, eight-room, frame house, which was built twenty-six years ago. He has been a good manager, and his affairs are in a very prosperous condition. He is a man of high character, and enjoys the respect and esteem of all.

Mr. Getzendaner was united in marriage with Mary Mabry, who was born in Illinois, in 1854, and they have had two children: Frank; and Edmond, deceased. The subject of this sketch is a Democrat, in politics, and has served on the school board of his township. He belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association; and is a member of Star Lodge No. 117, I. O. O. F., of Coffeyville, Kansas. Religiously, he is a Protestant.



HENRY L. RICH, an energetic and progressive young farmer of Walton township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the most prominent men in his community. He is a son of Thomas J. and Jane L. (Demorest) Rich, and was born in McLean county, Illinois, in 1863.

His father was born in Massachusetts,

April 7, 1807. His mother was born in Columbus, Ohio, February 15, 1822. At an early age Thomas J. Rich learned the carpenter's trade and spent many years in pursuing that occupation. The latter part of his life, however, was devoted to agricultural pursuits upon the farm now occupied by his son, Henry L. Upon this farm, which is the northeast quarter of section 5, Walton township, his last days were spent, and he passed to the life beyond in 1875. His wife died about five years previous to his demise. She was a native of Logansport, Indiana. They reared 11 children. All are deceased, with the exception of Henry L., who is the youngest of the family, and his brother George, who was the eighth in succession of birth. The other children were: Sarah A.; Smith; Martha; Jane; Thomas J.; Viola; Vilroy; Charles S. and Amozina.

Henry L. Rich accompanied his parents to Kansas in 1870, when but seven years of age. Principally through his own efforts in applying himself diligently to his books, he obtained a good practical education. Thus he was well equipped for the active and uniformly successful career he has subsequently enjoyed. Having been reared on a farm, it was but natural that he should adopt that calling as his life work.

He was joined in marriage with Lizzie F. Murray, who was born in Maryland, in 1867. Six children blessed their union, namely: Mamie; Mabel; Fay; Iva; Nellie; and Stanley. Mamie, Fay and Stanley are deceased. The family are devout members of the Dunkard church, and are charitably inclined.

Like his father, Mr. Rich firmly adheres to the principles of Democracy. He carries on general farming and devotes especial attention to stock raising,—breeding some very fine cattle, hogs and horses. Few men of his age hold





Yours truly,  
Fred H. Brown



so prominent a place in the public estimation. His friends pronounce his success the manifest result of resolute purpose and unflagging industry, and predict a bright future for him.

**J**ARED C. RICHCREEK, formerly probate judge of Labette county, Kansas, is now a lumber dealer of Oswego, and is well and favorably known throughout the county. He was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, in 1845, and is a son of George W. and Eliza (Mansfield) Richcreek.

George W. Richcreek was born in Virginia, in 1812, and was a child of six years when he moved with his parents to Ohio, where he was reared and schooled. He took to the occupation of a farmer, and after a time moved to the vicinity of Paris, Edgar county, Illinois, where he was engaged in farming until his death, in 1896, at the age of eighty-four years. His wife was Eliza Mansfield, who was born in 1822, and died in 1882. They were the parents of 11 children, as follows: Absalom; Mahala J.; Emily A. (Roller); Jared C., the subject of this sketch; Edward A.; Benjamin F.; Seth M.; Anna L. (Moore); Jesse; and Hiram and Howard, twins. Politically, George W. Richcreek was originally a Whig, and afterward a Republican. Religiously, he was a member of the Methodist church.

Jared C. Richcreek received his intellectual training in the public schools of his native town, and afterward taught a few terms in Illinois. From 1869 until 1875 he was one of the superintendents of a farm of 45,000 acres. After this he moved to Strawn, Illinois, where he was engaged in the grain and lumber business for a period of five years. He sold out his

interests there and settled in Labette county, Kansas, where he bought a farm in Montana township, and conducted it successfully for fourteen years. He followed general farming, and raised stock on an extensive scale. In 1894 he moved to Oswego, but still owns his original farm of 160 acres, and an additional tract of 80 acres. In the fall of 1894 he was elected, on the Republican ticket, judge of the probate court of Labette county, and served in a most creditable manner until the expiration of his term, January 2, 1897. He afterward purchased the Thompson Gunter lumber yard, and has since operated it successfully. He is a prosperous business man, and an enterprising and progressive citizen.

Judge Richcreek was united in marriage, in 1874, to Wilhelmina Kantauk, by whom he has five children: Emory H.; Alice; Jenavieve; Tecumseh S.; and Orville K. The subject of this sketch is a Republican, in politics, and served as justice of the peace while in Illinois.

**F**RED H. BROWN, a prominent business man of Parsons, Kansas, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, is secretary and treasurer, and general manager of the Kansas Telephone & Electrical Company.

Mr. Brown was born in Carthage, Missouri, in 1869, and was educated in the schools of Girard, Kansas, whither his parents moved in 1877. He also attended St. Francis Institute, of St. Paul, Kansas, and Wyman's Institute, of Alton, Illinois, taking a course in civil engineering. In 1888, he entered the engineering department of the R. H. & E. Ry. Company, with which he was identified until 1890. He then became traveling salesman for the

Pittsburg & Midway Coal Company, of Midway, Kansas, and remained in that position until 1894. The following year, he organized the Kansas Telephone & Electrical Company, which was chartered under the laws of Kansas, with the following officers: Hon. Charles H. Kimball, president; A. A. Osgood, vice-president; and Fred H. Brown, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Brown has had the active management of the promotion and general business of the enterprise, with head offices in Parsons. The company operates in Montgomery, Cherokee, Crawford and Labette counties. It has an exchange in Cherryvale and one in Parsons, and the lines in Labette county extend over 75 miles. Mr. Brown has resided in Parsons since 1895.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage, in 1892, with Minnie M. Hitz, of Girard, Kansas, and they have one son, Fred H., Jr. Fraternally, Mr. Brown is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the K. of P. Politically, he is unswerving in his support of the Republican party.



GEORGE W. HALL, deceased, for many years one of the prominent, influential citizens of Parsons, Kansas, was a blacksmith and machinist by trade. He was a man of sound principles, and of the strictest integrity, and his death was sincerely regretted by all who knew him. Mr. Hall was born in Steuben county, New York, in 1824, and was a son of John Hall. John Hall was born in Steuben county, New York, in 1805, and died in the same county, in 1824.

George W. Hall, the subject of this sketch, learned the trade of a blacksmith and machinist, and in 1852 moved to Fairfax, Virginia,

where he was engaged in the manufacture of plows. In 1861, the Confederates destroyed his property, and he barely escaped death, being obliged to crawl on his hands and knees, for 16 miles through brush in order to save his life. He journeyed on, and finally reached Washington, D. C., where he joined the Pioneer Corps, and was made a captain in the regiment. He was mustered out in 1865, and returned to Fairfax, Virginia. In 1871, Mr. Hall decided to locate in the West, and accordingly removed to Parsons, Kansas, where he became superintendent of the water tanks of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, between Junction City and Pryor Creek, Indian Territory. In 1874, Mr. Hall went into the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway shops at Parsons, as a machinist, and worked there until the time of his death, which occurred in 1883. He died of pneumonia, after having been sick but one day. He was greatly loved by all his fellow workmen, as he was ever ready to lend a helping hand, and to assist those in trouble. He was a good and faithful workman, and his employers reposed great confidence in him.

Mr. Hall was united in marriage with Lucy Golden, who was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, in 1838. She is a daughter of James and Margaret (Syphers) Golden; Mr. Golden was born in Richmond, Virginia, in 1800, and his wife was born in Winchester, Virginia, in 1802, and her death occurred in Blacksville, Virginia, in 1854. Mr. Golden was engaged in operating a large woolen mill at Blacksville. His death occurred in that city, in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Golden reared the following children: James W., who located in Kansas in 1854; Margaret, deceased; Louisa, of Blacksville, Virginia; Henry, of Colorado; Addie (Christley), deceased; Harford, of Jacksonville, Pennsylvania; Josiah, and Modock, both deceased;

Fannie (Franks), of Burton, Virginia; and Lucy.

Mrs. Hall traveled, in 1895, as correspondent for the *Waynesburg (Pennsylvania) Republican*, and the *Oswego Independent*, passing through the Southern States, Cuba, and Jamaica. She is widely known in Labette county, where she is living in section 26, Liberty township.

**J**OSEPH CARR, ticket agent for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, at Angola, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Ohio. He was born September 23, 1860, and is a son of Joseph and Margaret (Humphreys) Carr.

Joseph Carr, Sr., was born in Ireland, in 1817. He came to the United States, in 1819, and when a youth learned the trade of a carpenter. He is now living with his son, Joseph. He married Margaret Humphreys, and this union was blessed by the birth of two children: William, who is farming in Ohio; and Joseph, the subject of this sketch. Joseph Carr, Sr., was previously married to Ann Caruthers, by whom he reared three children, as follows: Samuel and Mary J., who live in Ohio, and James, who enlisted in the Union army at the age of sixteen years, and died in Andersonville prison.

The latter lived at home until 1881, when he moved to Kansas, and located two miles east of Angola, where he lived one year. He then conducted a bakery in Mound Valley until 1889, when he went to the Indian Territory. There he was employed as a switchman on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway. While serving in this capacity he was run over and lost both of his feet. This misfortune disabled him for some time, and, after

he was able to walk, he went to Wisconsin, where he was occupied in mercantile pursuits. In 1893, he went to Joplin, Missouri, where he was engaged in the fruit business until 1894. In October of that year, he returned to Angola, and accepted his present position with the railroad company. He has entire charge of the depot at that station. He is a competent man, and discharges his duties to the entire satisfaction of his employers and the public.

Mr. Carr married Emma Stone, who was born in Grant county, Wisconsin. She died in 1889, leaving two children,—Arthur J. and Bessie A. Mr. Carr married, secondly, Harriet B. Daugherty, who was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, in 1866. They have reared three children: Nolan W., Byron H. and Harry J.

Mr. Carr is postmaster of Angola, having been appointed February 21, 1890. In politics, he is a Republican. Fraternally, he is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. Religiously, he attends the Methodist church.

**T**HOMAS M. FLEMING, one of the progressive and successful business men of Labette county, Kansas, is superintendent of the Southwestern Coal & Improvement Company, of Parsons,—a position his father held before him. Mr. Fleming was born in Henry county, Illinois, in 1866, and is a son of Thomas Fleming.

Thomas Fleming came west in 1875, to take charge of the McAlester mines of the Osage Coal & Mining Company, and remained with that company until 1885. He then became identified with the Rich Hill Coal & Mining Company of Rich Hill, Missouri. In

1890, he severed his connection with that concern, and was made general manager of the Southwestern Coal & Improvement Company, in which capacity he was serving at the time of his death, in 1894, at the age of sixty-three years.

Ira M. Fleming attended the public schools, and was a pupil in the Missouri State School of Mines. In 1885, he became associated with his father's work, in a clerical capacity, changing from one company to another, when the latter did. On January 1, 1895, his knowledge of the business and his ability received recognition, when he was made superintendent of the Southwestern Coal & Improvement Company, with office at Parsons.

Mr. Fleming was joined in matrimony, in 1889, with Clara Pye, of Cherokee, Kansas. Fraternally, he is a member of Cherokee Lodge, No. 117, A. F. & A. M.; and Parsons Lodge, No. 527, B. P. O. E.



M. STRODE, who has resided in Oswego since 1893, is a prominent cattleman and owns two fine farms in Labette county, Kansas,—one in Fairview township and the other in Mount Pleasant township. He was formerly proprietor of the Oswego Hotel, and conducted that well known hostelry for a period of five years. Mr. Strode was born in Clinton county, Ohio, in 1840, and is a son of John L. Strode. His father was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, and was there reared and schooled. He was a farmer, by vocation, and at the time of his death, which occurred near Rome, Ohio, he was thirty-one years of age.

A. M. Strode was reared and mentally trained in Clinton county, Ohio, where he

lived until the outbreak of the Civil War. July 31, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, 39th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and served in the Army of the Tennessee. He was in General McPherson's command, on the day when that popular and able officer was killed. He was in the army three years and twenty-seven days, and participated in numerous hard-fought battles in a creditable manner. After the close of the war, he was engaged in mercantile pursuits at Centerville, Ohio, until 1876, when he disposed of his interests there and removed to Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas. He applied himself to farming and stock raising very successfully until 1894, when he became proprietor of the Oswego Hotel. This he conducted for a period of five years, and in 1900, opened another hotel at Wagoner, Indian Territory, which he sold out after keeping it four months. He now owns an excellent farm in Fairview township, and another in Mount Pleasant township, and is engaged in cattle dealing. He is a shrewd business man, and has been very successful in his various undertakings.

Mr. Strode was united in marriage with Elizabeth Canny, of Centerville, Ohio, in 1862. In political attachments, he is a strong Republican.



MATTHEW CAIN, deceased. For many years this gentleman was one of Labette City's leading merchants, and most highly respected citizens. He was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, good principles, and splendid business ability, and his death was deeply and sincerely mourned in the community. Honorable and upright in his dealings with all men, he won many lifelong friends, and his genial and pleas-





MR. AND MRS. R C. SHUMAKER AND FAMILY.



ing personality made him a favorite with all. Mr. Cain was born in Monroe county, Ohio, in 1834, and was a son of Alfred and Nancy (Laughin) Cain.

Alfred Cain was born in Monroe county, Ohio, in 1809, and died in that county in 1854. He married Mary Laughin, who was born in the same county, in 1813, and whose death took place there just seventy years later. They were the parents of the following children, namely: Rachael (Ambler), deceased; Richard, of Monroe county, Ohio; Matthew, the subject of this sketch; Louisa, deceased; Thomas, of Monroe county, Ohio; Luther, of Labette county, Kansas; John, deceased; Amanda (Mehl), of Virginia; Nancy, deceased; and Nelson.

Matthew Cain was reared and educated in Monroe county, Ohio, and in 1860 moved to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he lived for two years. In 1862, Mr. Cain enlisted in Company L, 125th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. He served gallantly until the close of the war, when he was mustered out, and returned to Vermilion county. He made that county his home for the following seventeen years, when he decided to move to Kansas. In 1882, Mr. Cain settled in Labette county, Kansas,—opening a place of business in Labette City. He continued in mercantile pursuits in Labette City, from 1882 until 1890,—the year of his death. He was much missed, both in business and social circles.

Mr. Cain married Jane Laughton, who was born in Monroe county, Ohio, in 1839. She is a daughter of John and Mary (Reed) Laughton. John Laughton was born in Scotland, in 1803, and died in Monroe county, Ohio, in 1843; his wife was born in Maryland, in 1810, and died in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1877. They reared the following

offspring: Elizabeth (McCoy), deceased; Jane (Cain), of Labette county, Kansas; Alexander, of Buffalo county, Nebraska; and William, deceased. Matthew Cain and his wife were the parents of the following children: Mary (Lamm), of Labette City, who has had three children,—Leslie, Mazie, and Eva, deceased; Ida (Miller), of Crawford county, Kansas, who has six children,—Clarence, Oscar, Mabel, Earnest, Bessie, and Amy; Frank, deceased; Anabel (Webb), of Kansas City, Missouri, who has one child,—Beulah; Clara, deceased; and Vernon, of Labette county.

Mr. Cain was a Republican, in politics, and held the office of road overseer. He was a Mason, in his younger days, and belonged to the Anti-Horsethief Association. In religious belief, he was a member of the New Light Society. Mrs. Cain is a member of the M. E. church and attends worship at Labette City. She resides in section 34, Liberty township.

---

**R**OBERT COLUMBUS SHUMAKER, a very prominent farmer of Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, has an excellent farm in section 14, township 32, range 18. He was born in Indiana, in 1849, and is a son of J. O. and Sarah (Stotts) Shumaker.

His family originally came from Holland, and located in New York State, previous to the Revolutionary War, and subsequently, in the state of Pennsylvania. The great-grandfather of Robert C. was one of the first settlers of Marion county, Indiana, and lived there when Indianapolis was founded. Mr. Shumaker's grandfather was born in Pennsylvania, where he remained until he was twelve years

old, when, with his father, he moved to Indiana, in 1812. He journeyed to Missouri, in 1856, with his son, J. O., and lived there until his death.

J. O. Shumaker was born and reared in Indiana. He was a Democrat in politics until 1864, when his first Republican vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln. He died in November, 1898, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, Sarah Stotts, was born and reared in Daviess county, Indiana, and died at the age of twenty-eight years, in the year 1860. Her mother's name was Laughlin, and she was of Scotch-English descent. Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Shumaker were parents of four children: Robert Columbus; Moses Milton, who resides on the old homestead in Missouri; Sophia (Cooper), whose husband is a farmer and stockman of Nevada; and Mary S. (Charlton), who also resides on a portion of the old family homestead in Missouri.

Robert C. Shumaker was six years of age when he was taken by his parents to Lewis county, Missouri, where he lived for twenty-two years. He moved to Labette county, Kansas, in 1878, and located on his present farm, in section 14, township 32, range 18, which he purchased of W. T. Stotts, who acquired first title to the property. The latter had broken and partly improved 40 acres, and had put up a small house, to which Mr. Shumaker built an addition. Mr. Shumaker also purchased 80 acres in section 11, north and west of his brother, M. M. Shumaker, who held the original deed thereto. He has successfully followed general farming and stock raising, and prefers Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs. His crops are chiefly corn, wheat and oats. He has a fine orchard of five acres and a well improved farm.

Mr. Shumaker was united in marriage in

Labette county, with Luella Traugher, who was born in Missouri, and is a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Dunkle) Traugher. She is one of four children: Emma (Watawa), of St. Louis, Missouri; Luella; Fanny (Dancy), of Kansas City, Missouri; and Charles A., who resides on section 23, township 32, range 18, in Labette county. Mr. and Mrs. Shumaker have five children, as follows: Gertrude E., A. Mabel, Orville E., Dora F., and Edna M. In politics, Mr. Shumaker is a Republican, and has served as trustee of Mound Valley township for one year. At present he is a member of the school board in district No. 65. He belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge of Mound Valley. In religious attachments, he and his children are members of the Methodist church, and his wife is a member of the Christian church.

A group picture of Mr. and Mrs. Shumaker and family, executed from a recent photograph, accompanies the foregoing sketch, being presented on a page in proximity to this.



WILLIAM SULLIVAN, a representative citizen and prominent business man of Parsons, Kansas, is the proprietor of a fine drug store in that city, located at No. 2128 Johnson avenue. He keeps at all times a fine line of pure drugs, makes a specialty of filling prescriptions, and maintains a complete stock of apothecaries' supplies.

Mr. Sullivan was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in July, 1856, and was the eldest of two sons born to James and Anna Sullivan. James Sullivan was also a native of Pennsylvania, and followed civil engineering for many years. During the Civil War, he

entered the Union service as a member of the Mulligan brigade, and never came back,—thus breaking the thread of the family history. The widowed mother, who was then living in Chicago, Illinois, was left with two small children, William, and his brother James, whom she was unable to support. They were placed with the Sisters of Mercy, in Chicago, and after a time homes were obtained for them. James was the first to leave the asylum, and William was ignorant of his brother's whereabouts for a number of years.

William Sullivan was taken to the home of Leonard Hagan, then of Illinois, where he was reared as a son. His primary education was obtained in the district schools. In 1870, he accompanied Mr. Hagan to Osage Mission, Kansas, which then formed the nucleus of immigration in this portion of the state. There he attended for some time the Indian school under the direction of the Jesuits, and was later sent to St. Louis, where he served an apprenticeship with a drug firm. When eighteen years old, he was placed in St. Mary's College near Topeka, Kansas, where he took a complete course in chemistry and botany, and also studied Latin and German. Returning to Osage Mission he was employed as a clerk in a drug store for two years. In the fall of 1879, he located in Parsons, Labette county, where he worked in a similar capacity for Silas Cary for a brief period. Mr. Sullivan then opened a drug store of his own, under the *Eclipse* office, where he carried on business for two years. He removed his drug store, from time to time, to different parts of the city, and enjoyed a very fair patronage. In 1892, he was enabled to erect a double building, 70 feet by 40 feet, in dimensions, and one story high, at No. 2128 Johnson avenue. For the past two years, Mr. Sullivan's drug

store has been located in a part of this building, and is a model of neatness.

While at Osage Mission (now St. Paul), Kansas, Mr. Sullivan formed the acquaintance of a Jesuit missionary, Father Colleton, who in his travels had previously visited Baxter Springs. At that place, he stopped with the family of Capt. Highland, with whom a boy was living, whose personal appearance greatly resembled that of William Sullivan. Father Colleton spoke of the remarkable likeness between the two boys, and an investigation revealed the fact that they were brothers. Guided by Father Colleton, William Sullivan went to see his brother, and finally induced James to locate in Parsons, Kansas, where he also engaged in the drug business. James Sullivan died in Parsons about 1897, leaving a son, Frank, who still resides in Parsons with his mother, and is employed in the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway yards.

William Sullivan was joined in marriage with Miss M. J. Mills, an accomplished daughter of Lafayette Mills, who, like himself, was a pioneer resident of St. Paul, Neosho county, Kansas. Eight children were born of this union, namely: Gertrude, William L., Leo, Fay, Louis, Irene, Clarence, and Joseph. Fay and Irene are deceased. The eldest child, and only living daughter, is attending the high school; the younger boys are also students. William L., who is fifteen years of age, is his father's able assistant in the drug store.

Mr. Sullivan is a man of decided views, but is temperate and gentlemanly in his expression of them. Although a Catholic, he entertains liberal ideas on religious subjects. In politics, he votes a straight Democratic ticket. Externally, he is a member of the A. O. U. W., and carries insurance in that order. He casts the weight of his influence in behalf of the wel-

fare of his community, and is earnestly interested in local matters. He enjoys the reputation of being a model citizen of Parsons, where he was among the first to establish a prosperous drug business.

---



S. TRAXSON, one of the foremost farmers living in Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, has been a resident of the county since 1882. He was born in England, in 1846, and at the age of thirteen years, went to sea, and was a sailor for four years. He was afterward a miner for two years, and next served on the London police force, for five years. When Mr. Traxson was twenty-seven years old, he came to America, landing at Galveston, Texas. He then located at Bryan, Texas, where he followed the occupation of a farmer for two years. After two years' residence in Dallas, he located, in 1876, at Graham, Texas, where he was engaged in farming and stock raising for six years.

Mr. Traxson moved to Labette county, Kansas, in the fall of 1882, and after spending a short time in Oswego, settled in Canada township, on the northeast quarter of section 18. This has been his home ever since, and he has made extensive improvements on the place. He built a large frame house of ten rooms, in 1898, and his farm is one of the finest in the county. Mr. Traxson is a conscientious worker and takes great pride in making his home attractive, and raising the highest grade of products.

The subject hereof has two brothers and two sisters living, whose names are as follows: George, Moses, Elizabeth, and Mary. Moses is in this country and the others live in Eng-

land. Mr. Traxson was united in marriage with Elizabeth Mapes, who was born in Norfolk, England, in 1848. They have reared eight children, namely: William, who is a farmer in Canada township; Ernest, deceased; John and Fred, who are at home; Elizabeth, deceased; Agnes; Rose; and George.

Mr. Traxson is a member of the Populist party. He has served one term as treasurer of Canada township, and was for some time on the school board. He belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association, Valeda Camp, No. 150. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church.

---



HESTER A. KEYSER, a resident of Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, and one of the leading farmers in the southwest portion of the county, was born in Hancock county, Ohio, in 1859. He is a son of J. B. and Margaret (Ryan) Keyser.

J. B. Keyser is a real estate dealer in Missouri. He married Margaret Ryan, and they have five children: Charlotte J., deceased; Calvin L.; Chester A.; Clarissa E., deceased; and Cassius J. Mr. and Mrs. Keyser were both born in Pennsylvania.

Chester A. Keyser lived in Hancock county, Ohio, until he reached the age of twenty-four years. He then removed to Platte county, Nebraska, where he farmed until he located in Labette county in the fall of 1883. He made the trip from Nebraska by wagon, and after reaching Labette county settled on a farm in Canada township, in section 2, township 34, range 18. He then spent six months in Ohio, and from there went to Colorado, where he lived for six months. His next location was Gentry county, Missouri, where,

with his brother, Calvin L., he was engaged in stock raising until the fall of 1891. Unfortunately, this last move was an unsuccessful one, and after his finances had been reduced to the lowest ebb, he returned, in the fall of 1891, to his farm in Canada township. Eight years later, Mr. Keyser located on his home farm, which is the east half of the northwest quarter of section 10. He also owns the northeast quarter of section 4, Canada township. His new residence was built in 1900. Mr. Keyser is engaged in general farming.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Sarah Haggerman, who was born in Ohio, in 1860. They have had two children, namely: Dona E.; and Don C., deceased. Mr. Keyser is a Populist, in political views. He takes an active interest in local politics, and has served two terms as trustee of Canada township. He is now serving as clerk of that township. He has been a member of the school board for six years, and is still a member of that body. Mr. Keyser belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and is also a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association, Valeda Camp, No. 150. He is well known in Labette county, and is respected as one of its foremost citizens.

**E**D BERO, JR., the well known dealer in books, periodicals, stationery and sporting goods of all kinds, is located at 107 South Central avenue, Parsons, Kansas. He is a son of Ed Bero, Sr., and a brother-in-law of E. B. Stevens, the well known banker of Parsons. He was born July, 1867, at Omaha, Nebraska.

Ed Bero, Sr., a prominent contractor of Parsons, is a Populist, in politics, and has

served in the city council. In 1872, the family moved to Columbus, Kansas, where they remained three or four months, and then located at Parsons, Labette county, where they have since had their home.

Ed Bero, Jr., attended the common schools, and left them at the age of fourteen years, to enter the employ of W. L. Bartlett & Company, as a grocery clerk. He remained with the firm ten years, and then on December 1, 1890, opened his present business. O. H. Stewart was with him for eighteen months as a silent partner, after which Mr. Bero continued the business alone. He has worked up a first class business, and is up to date in every particular. He enjoys a lucrative patronage, and is a favorite dealer with all.

Mr. Bero was united in marriage with Gertrude Barton, a daughter of James Barton, one of the pioneers of the county. His mother still resides on the outskirts of the city, at 3200 Forest avenue. Fraternally, Mr. Bero is a member of the A. O. U. W.; he is a Democrat, in politics, and in religious views is very liberal. Mrs. Bero is a member of the Fraternal Aid.

**M**ILLARD F. SMITH, manufacturer of, and wholesale dealer in, coal miners' supplies, is probably best known by reason of his invention of the M. F. Smith Double and Single Post Drilling Machine, which is widely used in the various mining states of the West. He is a practical man, and has met with success in his business ventures.

Mr. Smith was born June 13, 1851, in Logan county, Ohio, and is a son of John Milton and Jemiah (Sudith) Smith. John Milton Smith was a native of Virginia,—of



Scotch-Irish descent. He was a millwright by trade, and at an early age went with his widowed mother to Logan county, Ohio, where he assisted in clearing a farm. He moved from Ohio to Missouri and resided in different cities in the latter state, and in Iowa. He was also in the mill business in Texas, in 1860, and molded the first cook stove made in that state. He was a molder by trade, having formerly operated a foundry in Ohio. In the vicinity of Jefferson, Texas, in 1860, his mother was killed by an explosion. In March, 1861, he moved to Jefferson county, Kansas. Previous to this he had been employed at Independence, Missouri, by Overfelt & Dodd, Southern sympathizers, and being a Northerner he was compelled to seek safety in flight. He had owned and operated mills at Eddyville and Ottumwa, Iowa, and was an able mechanic in every line, but paid particular attention to the millwright work. He died at Cedarvale, Kansas, in June, 1886, at the age of seventy-seven years. He and his wife were parents of three children: Dulcina (Sproul), of Cedarvale, Kansas; Millard F.; and Jesse F., a farmer living near Cedarvale.

Millard F. Smith attended the common schools until he was thirteen years of age, after which he was obliged to clothe and support himself. He worked in a woolen mill at Grasshopper Falls, Kansas, now called Valley Falls. He was left in Wilson county, in 1870, and was employed in the grist-mills owned by Beam & Sons. He purchased a farm in Wilson county, which he rented, and in 1871 located at Parsons, and was employed by G. W. Chess, who built the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway shops. His first work there was in guarding around the machine shops, and he helped Foreman Burns to carry the first ladle of iron in the shops. He had begun to

work as fireman when a lad of but fifteen years, and by 1870 was a good engineer. In the early "seventies," he ran the engine, in the old Parsons flour mill, owned by Knox, Chess & Matthewson, and then went to Lake City, Colorado, where he operated a shingle-mill and sawmill by contract, until 1877, for Gibert, Hall & Company. In the fall of 1877, he returned to Parsons, and ran a flouring-mill engine for one year. He returned to his farm in August, 1878, and remained there the following winter. He then engaged as engineer for the National Mill & Elevator Company, of Parsons, for eighteen months, and in 1882 bought a patent-right for Nebraska and Dakota, of a rotary pump, which did not prove a success. In Plattsmouth, Nebraska, he worked in a foundry and was also fireman on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, from Plattsmouth to Omaha and Hastings. He also put the machinery into a grist-mill in that city. In March, 1884, he returned to Parsons and engaged with the Parsons Coal Company,—putting in machinery and running their engines at the Daisy Shaft, Weir City, at which work he remained for three years. It was while there he invented the Smith coal mining drill and brass checks, of which he has since manufactured many thousands, selling them in Indiana, Indian Territory, Arkansas and Colorado. In 1889, the Smith Manufacturing Company was organized in Parsons, with Mr. Smith as president and general manager, a position he held until 1895, when he withdrew, taking with him the iron and brass departments. The company still turns out the woodwork, handles, etc. The plant was destroyed by fire in 1894. Mr. Smith now owns the building which he occupies, and manufactures Smith drills and coal miners' supplies. He is the only manufacturer of brass checks



with raised figures. He owns all the machinery and employs five men. He also handles coal, and is the only dealer in Parsons who sells Piedmont blacksmithing coal, in car lots. He has two natural gas engines, one of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , and the other of 4 horse power, which run the machinery. He is the inventor of various novelties, among which is the Eclipse Embroidery Frame and Embroidery Hoop Holder, adjustable to chair, table or bed rail, and used to hold embroidery and fancy work.

Mr. Smith was united in marriage, at Parsons, Kansas, in May, 1885, with Matie A. Lamb, who was born in Schenectady, New York, in 1868, and they have three children: Cora W., Vesta, and George M. Politically, Mr. Smith is a Prohibitionist and a Republican. He is a member of Lodge No. 117, A. F. & A. M., of Parsons; and Lodge No. 1, A. O. U. W., of Parsons. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Christian church. Mr. Smith purchased the A. G. Harris house, at No. 2115 Forrest avenue, where he now resides.

**D**R. W. A. HUFF, a well known physician residing in Altamont, Labette county, Kansas, has for many years been one of the prominent men in the county. He is a skillful physician, and his patronage is large and lucrative. He was born in Breckinridge county, Kentucky, in 1847, and is a son of Lewis and Polly (Haynes) Huff.

Lewis Huff was a native of Ohio county, Kentucky, but spent his active career in Breckinridge county, in that state, where he died in 1867, at the age of sixty years. He married Polly Haynes, who was a native of Ohio county, Kentucky, and who was born in 1812. She

died in 1895. They reared three sons and three daughters.

Dr. W. A. Huff received his primary education in his native county, and began the study of medicine under his brother, Dr. J. B. Huff, of Breckinridge county, Kentucky. He also took a course of lectures at the University of Kentucky, where he graduated with the class of 1869. He began the practice of his chosen profession in Hancock county, Kentucky, where he remained until 1882, and then moved to Piqua, Woodson county, Kansas, where he practiced until 1889. In that year, Dr. Huff moved to Altamont, Labette county, where he has since resided. Since his residence in Labette county, he has become very well known throughout this section, and is considered one of the best physicians in the county.

In 1867, Dr. Huff married Sarah Pate, a native of Breckinridge county, Kentucky, and their union resulted in three children, namely: Minnie (Parks), of Neosho Falls, Kansas; Elmer E., who resides in Webb City, Missouri; and Alberta. Dr. Huff is a member of the A. F. & A. M., and of the Fraternal Aid. He is a Democrat, in politics. He was one of the first trustees of the Labette County High School, at Altamont.

**B**ENJAMIN S. STONE, a pioneer settler of Labette county, and one of the best farmers in his district, resides in section 21, Fairview township, Labette county, Kansas. He was born in Switzerland county, Indiana, February 19, 1840, and is a son of Benjamin F., and a grandson of Benjamin Stone, the latter a native of Pennsylvania.

Benjamin F. Stone was born in Ohio, in

1815, and moved with his parents from Ohio to Switzerland county, Indiana, when but a boy. In the early part of his life he followed the trade of a carpenter, but subsequently carried on farming. In 1842 he moved to Hancock county, Illinois, in 1849 to Muscatine county, Iowa, and in 1864 to Johnson county, Nebraska, where he died, November 10, 1900, aged eighty-five years, seven months, and ten days. He married Mary Latta, who was born in 1816, and died in 1860. They reared the following children: William G.; Benjamin S.; Sylvester; Moses; Joseph; Margaret (Lafin); Jennie; and Belle, deceased. Mr. Stone married the second time, and by this union reared four children. Politically, he was a Democrat, and served as a justice of the peace for some time. He was a lieutenant of the 1st Reg., Illinois Militia, in the Mormon War.

Benjamin S. Stone received his mental training in the schools of Muscatine county, Iowa. He learned the trade of a carpenter, which he now follows in connection with farming. In 1861 Mr. Stone enlisted in Company C, 1st Reg., Iowa Vol. Inf., and was in the Army of the West for three months. He then reenlisted in the 44th Reg., Iowa Vol. Inf., and was with the 16th Army Corps, under Gen. A. J. Smith. He enlisted as a corporal, and when he was mustered out, September 15, 1864, he was a sergeant. In 1866 he left Iowa and settled in Labette county, Kansas, making the trip by wagon, and reaching his destination in November. He first located in Oswego township, where he built one of the first log cabins in the county, as there were but three others in the village of Oswego. He remained in Kansas nine months, when he returned to Muscatine county, Iowa, and in 1875 again settled in Kansas, locating

in Fairview township. In 1882 Mr. Stone bought his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 21, and has lived there ever since.

In 1862 Mr. Stone was wedded to Cornelia Lake, of Muscatine county, Iowa, and they have been blessed with four children, namely: Mary (Swanwick), who has four children; Cora (Paxton); W. Benjamin; and Josephine. Mr. Stone is a member of the G. A. R., Post No. 150. He is a Republican, in politics, and has served as school director for twelve years. He has done much to assist in the advancement and progress of Labette county, and is highly respected by all his fellow citizens.

**A**LLEXANDER M. HARSHAW, one of the representative farmers of Labette county, Kansas, owns and lives upon a well improved farm of 160 acres in Fairview township. He is engaged in general farming,—guided by modern ideas,—and has been very successful.

Mr. Harshaw was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, February 14, 1849, and is a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Emerick) Harshaw. Robert Harshaw was born in Ireland in 1810, came to this country with his parents, in 1825, and located in Butler county, Pennsylvania. He lived in that county until 1860, and in that year moved to Martin county, Indiana, where he lived until his death, in 1890. He married Elizabeth Emerick, who was born in 1819, and died in 1892, and they reared the following-named eight children: George; John; Alexander M.; Robert J.; Margaret; M. Elizabeth; Anna; and Sarah.

Alexander M. Harshaw received his mental





J. CHRISTIAN APPICH.

training in Butler county, Pennsylvania, and Martin county, Indiana, whither his parents had moved. After reaching his majority, he returned to Butler county, Pennsylvania, and in the spring of 1875 went west to Colorado. In the fall of the same year he settled in Fairview township, Labette county, and purchased the south half of the northeast quarter, and the north half of the southeast quarter, of section 29, where he has since been located. He has made most of the improvements upon the place and has it under a high state of cultivation, having developed it into one of the best farms of the township. He is a man of estimable character, and a true friend and good neighbor.

In 1878 Mr. Harshaw was united in marriage with Ida Scott, a native of Illinois, and they have two children: Roscoe, born in 1884; and Grace, who was born in 1890. Fraternally, he is a member of the Oswego Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; the Knights and Ladies of Security; and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is independent in politics, favoring a protective tariff, free silver, and prohibition. He was treasurer of the township in 1899 and 1900. The family belong to the Methodist church.



CHRISTIAN APPICH, owner and proprietor of the largest and best meat market in Parsons, Kansas, has also the distinction of being the oldest butcher in that place. He is a German by birth, having been born at Rottenburg, Germany, in 1844. His parents, J. C. and Anna Appich, both of whom are deceased, never left the fatherland. They were the parents of the following nine children: Christopher, J. Christian, Jacob, John, Andrew, William, Frank,

Fredericka, and Caroline. Andrew was killed during the Franco-Prussian War. Jacob is a retired butcher of Washington, District Columbia, where John is still a prosperous baker. The others are married and live in their native land.

In 1864, Mr. Appich came to America, in company with his brother Jacob. He had received a practical education in Germany, where he had also learned the butcher's trade. After landing in the United States, the brothers proceeded to Washington, District Columbia, where a butcher shop was established by them, in which the subject hereof worked for some time. He subsequently went to St. Louis, Missouri, where he remained a couple of years, and afterward proceeded to Fort Scott, Kansas, on a prospecting tour. Having saved a few hundred dollars, it was his desire to go to New Orleans, but he abandoned the idea on account of the prevalence of yellow fever in that city, and finally decided to locate permanently in Kansas.

In 1869, before the city of Parsons was founded, he located in Labette county, at a little village then called Ladore, formerly known as Fort Roach. He followed his chosen calling for a couple of years in the employ of Conrad Hingle, now a retired butcher of Parsons. In 1871, Mr. Appich assisted his employer in moving the butcher shop from Ladore to the present site of Parsons. It was the first shanty placed there, and was located the third door west from the corner of Johnson and Central avenues. Mr. Appich continued to do business there as a journeyman, for about one year, and afterward worked in a similar capacity for Dent & Coon. In the fall of 1873, he decided to embark in business for himself, and accordingly opened a butcher shop on Central avenue, leasing the plot of ground

and erecting his own building thereon. He did a prosperous business for four years. He then sold his business, at a very fair profit, to Mr. Flickery, for whom he bought and butchered stock for more than two years. Subsequently, he worked for Mr. Ratliff, an Englishman, at similar work, and afterward, for J. L. Harvey, there being four butcher shops then in the fast growing town of Parsons.

By this time (1883), Mr. Appich had saved a considerable sum of money, with which he purchased a lot and, erecting a building, again engaged in business for himself on the west side of the railroad track. In 1892, he had the misfortune to lose his shop by fire, but still owns the lot. Undaunted, he found a more desirable location, directly across the street from his present shop, where he rented a building and again engaged in business; at the same time, he began the erection of the building he now occupies, which was completed in 1893. This building is a large and imposing structure, located at 1920 Johnson avenue. It is 75 by 25 feet, in dimensions, and contains two stories and a basement. The upper story is rented out for office rooms. The remainder is occupied by Mr. Appich, who has the entire basement fitted with meat choppers, sausage grinders, etc., all operated by steam. He employs five workmen, has the largest and best equipped meat market in the city, and handles all kinds of fresh meat, poultry, fine sausages, bacon, fish, etc., and also the famous "Armour" bacon and hams.

Mr. Appich owns a fine residence at 1521 Washington avenue. He was united in marriage with Lizzie Merchant, of Parsons, a daughter of Francis Merchant, a Frenchman, who was a baker by trade, and kept a restaurant. Mr. Merchant was a finished

linguist and spoke seven different languages with fluency. The mother of Mrs. Appich was of German birth, while Mrs. Appich, herself, was a native of Booneville, Missouri, where she was born in 1854.

Five children bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Appich. They are: Annie, Frank, J. Christian, Jr., Harry, and Irene. The eldest is now the wife of Mr. Hart, a stationary engineer, of Parsons, and has one son, Frank. Fraternally, Mr. Appich is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America; his wife is a member of the auxiliary lodge, and has held one chair. They are both members of the Knights & Ladies of Security. Mr. Appich carries a beneficial policy in the A. O. U. W., and was one of the first to join that lodge in Parsons, although not a charter member. He was formerly a Democrat, in politics, but has experienced a change of opinion, and now votes the Republican ticket. The family attends the different churches, giving the preference, however, to the Christian church. Aside from his own business ventures, Mr. Appich has devoted energy, good judgment, and money to the furtherance of the city's interests, and the promotion of all worthy enterprises connected therewith. He deserves great credit for his untiring efforts in this direction. We are pleased to be able to present on a foregoing page a portrait of Mr. Appich, engraved from a recent photograph.



GEORGE T. FINCH, a representative citizen of Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, has taken up the line of work laid down by a most honorable line of ancestors, and is most ably performing the many duties that fall to the lot




of the modern tiller of the soil who wishes to make a success of his vocation. Mr. Finch was born in the city of Rochester, New York, and spent his younger days in school after the usual manner of American youths, assisting meanwhile about the home farm. He is the youngest child, and the only son born to William and Clara Finch, respected and esteemed residents of the Empire State. His youngest sister's name is Maggie. His eldest sister, Mary, resides on the old homestead.

George T. Finch continued to work upon his father's farm until he was nineteen years of age; he then learned the molder's trade, which he followed until the fall of 1852, and since that time he has been engaged in farming. His marriage took place in 1861. Lena Banta became his wife, the ceremony being performed at the home of the bride, in Illinois. She lived thereafter but seven months. August 14, 1862, Mr. Finch enlisted as a private in the 77th Reg. Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the war, being honorably discharged from the service July 10, 1865, at Mobile, Alabama.

Returning to his home in Illinois, he continued to reside there until the fall of 1870; he then came west, to Butler county, Kansas, where he purchased land and cultivated it for four years. Receiving a good offer for his farm, he sold out, and returned once more to the Prairie State, where he remained until 1888. But the West held out strong inducements to him and during that year he returned to Kansas to seek a new location. He found a very desirable spot in Labette county, and, later, located permanently upon the farm in Osage township, which is still his home. This farm is a part of section 23, township 31, range 18, and is now one of the most productive farms in Labette county. He carries on

general farming and stock raising. His farm is well stocked, and is especially adapted to the raising of grain. He possesses a home of which any man might well be proud; his buildings are kept in perfect repair and it is the kind of an estate that would gladden the heart of any one who loves the free, hearty and independent life of an agriculturist. Mr. Finch's union with Lena Banta, who died January 12, 1862, resulted in one child,—Jacob L.,—who lives in Chicago. November 15, 1865, Mr. Finch again married,—this time wedding Jane Ruff, by whom he had two children who grew to maturity,—Henry and Mary. Mr. Finch's last marriage was consummated April 27, 1890,—Mrs. Esther Rudder, of Dennis, Kansas, being the bride.

Mr. Finch's church lines are laid with the United Brethren denomination. In politics, he is one of the best known Republicans in his section. In business affairs he is clear-headed, shrewd and upright. He is a valued member of the G. A. R.

EORGE S. TARKINGTON, a prominent farmer living in the northeast quarter of section 16, Fairview township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the progressive citizens of the county. He was born in the town of Bloomington, Monroe county, Indiana, February 22, 1848, and is a son of Ellsbury and Lucinda (Legg) Tarkington.

Ellsbury Tarkington, who was a native of Kentucky, reared the following children, namely: Joseph, who resides at Minden, Nebraska; William, deceased; James, who lives on the old homestead in Monroe county, Indiana; Sarah (Wallingford), of Greene county, In-

diana; Mary, Mildred (Harden), and Jonathan, deceased; George S.; and Matthew M., a resident of Oswego, Kansas.

George S. Tarkington received his mental training in Monroe county, Indiana, and at the age of sixteen years began the battle of life alone. In the fall of 1879 he started west in a covered wagon,—driving all the way from Indiana to Labette county, Kansas, where he arrived November 1, 1869. He took up a railroad claim in Fairview township, and with the exception of one year spent in the East has resided in that township ever since. He has owned several farms, but bought his present home,—the northeast quarter of section 16, in March, 1897. He carries on general farming. He has recently bought 80 acres adjoining his farm, on which his son will live.

Mr. Tarkington married Mary C. Hall, a native of Indiana, in February, 1873. They have three children,—Edna, Roy, and Mildred. Mr. Tarkington is a member of the M. W. of A. He is a Populist, in politics, and served as trustee of the township in 1894, 1895 and 1898. He is township committeeman for his party at the present time.



ACOB F. LEWIS, deceased. Among the well known former residents of Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, the name of Jacob F. Lewis stood well to the front. Mr. Lewis was born in the Hoosier State and was a son of Thomas L. and Nancy Lewis.

Thomas L. Lewis followed agricultural pursuits and he and his wife reared five children, as follows: John B., Elizabeth, Mary E., Julia Ann, and Jacob F., the subject of these lines.

Jacob F. Lewis was reared on his father's farm and pursued his studies in the district schools of his native state, where he obtained the rudiments of a practical education; he remained at home until he was twenty years of age. In February, 1865, he responded to his country's call for men, and enlisted in Company I, 151st Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf. He rendered valiant service, and was honorably discharged September 19, 1865, by reason of General Order No. 68.

Going home after the successful termination of the war, Mr. Lewis continued to carry on farming in Indiana for many years. In 1882 he came to Labette county, Kansas, and purchased a fine farm in Osage township, where he continued to live and to till the soil up to the time of his death, June 20, 1891. He improved his farm in various ways, and made it one of the best in his neighborhood. He was well known throughout his county and had the confidence and esteem of a host of acquaintances.

October 10, 1853, Mr. Lewis was joined in matrimony with Esther A. Hume, a daughter of James and Mary (McWilliams) Hume. Six children blessed their union, namely: Jasper H.; Mary J.; Aurora A.; Evelyn C.; Eldora; and James T. M. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political opinions, Mr. Lewis adhered to the Republican party and served several terms on the school board. He affiliated with the I. O. O. F. and with the Farmers' Alliance. He was a shrewd business man, and was well liked by his neighbors. Upon locating in Kansas, he was practically a poor man, and the prosperous condition of his estate is but the result of his energy and perseverance, coupled with the application of successful methods in farming. His success was well

deserved. He was one of the organizers of Dennis, and a part of his farm was sold and divided into city lots.

**A**RCHIBALD DANIELS, one of the successful and enterprising farmers of Labette county, Kansas, resides in Osage township, in section 17, township 31, range 18, where he owns a tract of as fertile land as can be found in the county. He is a son of Dennis and Mahala Daniels, and is an Ohioan by birth.

Dennis Daniels was a farmer in Ohio, where he also owned and operated a mill. He and his estimable wife reared 11 children, namely: Abigail; Rhoda; John; Archibald; Lydia; Jacob; Alfred; Mary; Isabel; Dennis; and George. Four of these were born in the state of Illinois.

Archibald Daniels attended the common schools and grew to manhood on his father's farm, where he remained until he attained the age of twenty-one years. He thus gave his father the benefit of his labors during his early manhood. He then left home to make his own way in the world, and followed agricultural pursuits on neighboring farms for a few years. When twenty-seven years old he was joined in marriage with Mary S. Flynn, a daughter of Andrew and Ann Eliza (Killpatrick) Flynn. This wedding was performed in Illinois, in 1867, and the young folk began housekeeping in the same state, where they continued to live for about six years. In 1872 they decided to seek a home for themselves in the West, and came to Kansas, locating permanently on the farm in Osage township which is their home today.

Mr. Daniels has met with unusual success

during his residence in Labette county, through his operations in general farming and stock raising. He attributes this success to his unremitting effort and careful management, having made all he is worth since settling in Labette county. In politics, he is an ardent Democrat. Both he and Mrs. Daniels are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They reared a daughter, Minnie (Oatts), who has three children,—Hattie Frances, John J., and Roxy Lillian,—and resides in Dennis.

Mr. Daniels is a very industrious man, of careful habits, and during his active life has accumulated considerable property. He is popular throughout the county. He affiliates with the Sons and Daughters of Justice, and is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association.

**M**ICHAEL T. MCCARTHY, a prosperous business man, and well known farmer and stock raiser, of Walton township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in County Kerry, Ireland, in 1848. He is a son of T. M. and Julia (O'Leary) McCarthy. They were the parents of five children, namely: Jerome; Daniel; Michael T.; John; and Julia.

Michael T. McCarthy was brought by his parents to America, in 1849. They landed at New York, whence they went direct to Illinois. There Mr. McCarthy received his schooling, and learned farming. He remained in Illinois until 1872, when he moved to Kansas, and located on his present farm, which comprises the southwest quarter of section 9, and the north half of the northwest quarter of section 16, Walton township. He is engaged in the tilling of the soil, in which occupation

he has had a thorough training. He is thrifty and industrious, and his farm presents a well kept, attractive appearance. In addition to his duties on the farm, Mr. McCarthy has the agency for the Page Woven Wire Fence Company for six counties in Kansas. He is also agent for the Tower Surface Cultivator Company, in which work he is meeting with good success. He further represents the Plano Manufacturing Company, and sells its mowers, binders, rakes and sickle-grinders. Mr. McCarthy takes a great deal of interest in stock raising, and has been very successful in that line.

Mr. McCarthy was united in marriage with Ellen McGough, who was born in Illinois in 1842. They have been blessed with nine children, as follows: Philip L.; John, deceased; Jerome; Julia; Hugh; Sarah; Loretta; Justin; and Mary. Mr. McCarthy is a member of the Populist party, and takes an active interest in the politics of the county and township. He has ably filled the office of trustee of his township for one term, and has been a member of the school board for ten years. He is generally and favorably known in Labette county, where he has many warm friends.



JAMES A. JARBOE, treasurer of Walton township, occupies an enviable position among the worthy men of Labette county, and owns one of the most productive farms in Southern Kansas. Mr. Jarboe was born in Hart county, Kentucky, in 1844. He is the youngest of six children born to Benjamin and Ellen (Horrell) Jarboe, both of whom were natives of the state of Maryland. Other members of the family

are H. B.; Anna M.; Benjamin; J. F.; and W. J.

James A. Jarboe attended the schools of his native county and remained in Kentucky until he reached the age of twenty-four years. In August, 1863, he enlisted in Company B, 8th Reg., Kentucky Mounted Infantry, Forrest's Division, and served until the close of the war. In 1868 he came west as far as Illinois, and made his home within that state's borders for a couple of years. Believing in still greater possibilities farther west, he left Illinois, in 1870, and located permanently in Kansas. He took up a claim in Walton township, Labette county, which is now his home. It is one of the most productive farms in Walton township, and comprises the northwest quarter of section 20, and the southwest quarter of section 17. On this farm Mr. Jarboe has carried on general farming for about a third of a century, and has also raised and dealt in stock, to a considerable extent. He is earnestly interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of his township, and is rightly considered one of its most progressive citizens. His union with Elizabeth E. White, who was born in Kentucky in 1850, resulted in a large family of children, namely: Benjamin A.; Mary; John H.; W. J.; Rosa H.; Mattie; Gertrude; William; and Daniel.

In 1890 their present large, two-story frame house, containing 14 rooms, was erected and adds not a little to the imposing appearance of the place, besides enhancing the comfort of the family.

Mr. Jarboe is a man of good principles and strict integrity, and is always willing to support any measure which is for the good of the people. He is a man of great energy and will power, and these qualities have been instrumental in carrying him to the front, in both

his township and his county. Politically, he is an unswerving Democrat, and takes an active part in all the affairs of that party. He is intensely interested in educational matters and has been a faithful and valued member of the school board for eighteen years. He served as county commissioner three years. At the present writing he is also serving as treasurer of Walton township, of which he held the office of clerk for fifteen years. He is a member of the Anti-Horse Thief Association, and belongs to the Sons and Daughters of Justice,—an insurance organization. The family adhere to the Catholic faith.

---

**M**RS. LIZZIE DIXON, *nee* Haub, a highly respected lady of Walton township, Labette county, Kansas, esteemed for her benevolent disposition and her many amiable traits of character, is the widow of the late Edward Dixon, whose death took place December 15, 1900.

Edward Dixon was born, in 1843, at White Pigeon, Michigan, where he spent his boyhood, and prepared himself for the struggle of life. He learned the trade of a miller and followed that calling during his early manhood. In 1864 he left Michigan and was located for several years in Seymour, Indiana, where he and his brother-in-law conducted a hotel, and met with a fair degree of success. He conceived the idea of going west where as a young man his advantages would be greater. In 1869 he located upon the northeast quarter of section 4, Walton township, having been favorably impressed with the land in Labette county. This is the farm which is the present home of Mrs. Dixon, and the place where her lamented husband passed his last days.

Mrs. Dixon is a native of England. She is a daughter of Conrad and Margaret (Young) Haub, both of whom were born in Germany,—the former in 1819, and the latter in 1821. While still a young man, Mr. Haub went to England, and in 1849 came to America with his family, and located in Seymour, Indiana. Six children were born to him and his wife, as follows: Conrad; Lizzie; John; Louisa and Philip, deceased; and Annie.

Lizzie Haub accompanied her parents to America, and located in Seymour, Indiana, which continued to be her home until 1870, when she joined her husband in the journey to Kansas. Four children blessed her union with Edward Dixon, namely: George; Edward; Anna L.; and Arthur. The eldest is a prominent farmer in Neosho county, Kansas. Edward, the second son, conducts the home farm for his mother, carries on general farming, and also raises some cattle. Surrounded by her children, Mrs. Dixon is spending her declining years amid the familiar scenes which have witnessed her many years of unselfish endeavor. She is provided with every comfort, and the burden of former days has been lifted from her, and now rests upon the shoulders of her offspring, who delight to do her honor.

---

**D**ON CARLOS WELCH, auditor of the Southwestern Coal & Improvement Company, with offices at Parsons, Kansas, is one of the most prominent business men of the city, and occupies a high position in the estimation of his fellow citizens. He is a man of rare judgment and fine business ability, and although young, has had several years of valuable business experience. Since first engaging in the



business, he has made rapid progress, and gained several promotions. He was born in Pike county, Missouri, in 1868.

Mr. Welch received his early mental training in Bates county, Missouri, whither his parents moved when he was quite young. He attended the public schools of that county, and later became a student in the Missouri State University. He subsequently taught school for three years with much success. In 1891 he entered the office of the Southwestern Coal & Improvement Company, and shortly afterward was promoted to the position of chief clerk. It was not long until he was again promoted, and became cashier. January 1, 1897, Mr. Welch was made auditor of the company, and this position he has continued to fill in an able manner ever since. He has won the confidence and respect of all who are connected with him in a business way, and is very popular among his fellow workmen and his social acquaintances.

Mr. Welch was united in marriage, in 1893, with Ethel Clifton, and they have been blessed with one child, whose name is Lorene. Mr. Welch has lived in Parsons, Kansas, since April 1, 1896, and takes an active interest in local affairs. He is a member of Parsons Lodge, No. 527, B. P. O. E.



**D**R. ANDREW TEN BROOK, one of the most prominent physicians and surgeons of Parsons, Kansas, has an extensive practice in the vicinity, in addition to which he has acted as local surgeon for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company since 1890.

Dr. Ten Brook was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, in 1853, and is a

son of Andrew Ten Brook, Jr., and a grandson of Andrew Ten Brook, Sr., who was born in New Jersey, and was an early settler in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania.

Andrew Ten Brook, Jr., father of the Doctor, was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, and resided in that county all his life with the exception of twelve years spent in Niagara county, New York. He married Hannah M. McCarty, who died at the age of thirty-eight years. He died at the age of seventy-eight years. They were parents of three children who reached maturity, as follows: William H., of Paris, Illinois, Andrew, and Adelaide (Russell), a resident of Northumberland county, Pennsylvania. One died in infancy, and Robert S. died at an early age. William H. became a physician.

Dr. Andrew Ten Brook received his primary mental culture in the public schools of his native county, and at the age of sixteen years went to Galesburg, Illinois, where he attended Knox College. He afterward studied medicine at Jefferson Medical College, in Philadelphia, and was graduated with the class of 1876. Returning to his native county, he practiced medicine there in a very successful manner for a period of seven years, and was then located for one year at McLean, Illinois. In February, 1884, he settled in Parsons, Kansas, where he has built up a good and remunerative practice, and enjoys an excellent reputation as a skilled and experienced practitioner.

In 1884 Dr. Ten Brook was united in matrimony with Carrie D. Aldrich, of McLean, Illinois, and they have two children, as follows: Carl and Andrew, Jr. Fraternally, the Doctor is a member of Parsons Lodge, A. F. & A. M. Politically, he is a staunch Republican. He has served as a member of the







J. M. BIRT.

board of health and as city physician. He is also a member of the Southeastern Kansas Medical Society.

**J**M. BIRT, a highly esteemed citizen of Parsons, Kansas, who is practically retired from his occupation of farming, and is now serving as city marshal, is living in his fine residence at 2204 Johnson avenue. He is one of the pioneer settlers of this part of Kansas, and was born at Xenia, Greene county, Ohio, December 19, 1844. He is the youngest of seven children born to John and Elizabeth (Lambert) Birt.

John Birt, who was an Ohioan by birth, moved to Illinois in the spring of 1857, and by successful farming and speculation accumulated a fortune of \$40,000. While visiting his son, J. M., in New Orleans, he dropped dead from heart disease, on January 26, 1865,—having reached the age of sixty-five years. His widow survived him for many years, and passed to her reward, April 26, 1876, at the age of sixty-nine years. Their mortal remains rest in the cemetery at Perry, Illinois. Their children were as follows: Minerva (Hoy), who died aged forty-two years; Martha (Hampton), who died at the early age of thirty-six years; L. H., who recently died in Missouri, at the age of seventy-three years; A. L., who is a Union veteran of the Civil War, is a farmer in Ohio, where he still resides, at the age of seventy-one years; J. C., fifty-one years old, who is a retired farmer, of Carthage, Missouri; Mrs. Mary A. Hurley, of Nortonville, Kansas; and J. M., the subject of this biography.

J. M. Birt had limited educational advantages, which were supplemented by a careful

home training. He remained at home and was occupied in cultivating his father's farm until August 9, 1862, when he enlisted in Company B, 99th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and served as a private in the Department of the West, under Gen. R. S. P. Canby. The duration of his service was three years, lacking ten days, and he was mustered out of service at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1865. Returning from the war, his marriage with Sarah M. Moore, a daughter of J. Moore, of Ohio, was consummated, and he continued to conduct the family farm for several years, thereby making a home also for his widowed mother.

In 1869 Mr. Birt left Illinois to seek a new location in the West. He went first to Richardson county, Nebraska, where he rented a farm for one year. He then went to Atchison, Kansas, where he was also dissatisfied. He spent some time in Neosho county, and then came to Labette county, where he located permanently. He purchased 160 acres of fine farming land in Walton township, six miles from Parsons, for \$4,200. He lived upon that farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits for many years. He finally sold to great advantage, and afterward purchased another fine farm, which he leased to his son. March 5, 1893, Mr. Birt removed to Parsons to spend his declining years in retirement, and the enjoyment of the fruits of his labor. He was, however, appointed by Mayor Busby, on May 6, 1901, to the office of chief city marshal, the duties of which he is now discharging.

Mrs. Birt was born in Ohio in 1844. She is one of a family of 10 children, the most of whom died while young. One sister, Mrs. J. M. Gregory, also resides in Parsons. Their father, J. Moore, was a successful and highly respected business man and pioneer of Parsons. He was a native of Ohio, and located

in September, 1869, in Labette county, where he engaged in farming. After the town of Parsons was laid out, he erected one of the first buildings on Johnson avenue, and opened a furniture store, with a capital of only \$200. Subsequently, a partnership was formed, and the business continued to prosper under the firm name of Moore & Gregory, until January, 1898. The death of Mr. Moore then occurred, and the firm became Gregory & Son, who still do business at the old stand.

Mr. and Mrs. Birt have reared a family of five children. The eldest, C. H. Birt, married a Miss Traux, and leases his father's farm in Labette county; he has three children, Roy, Norma and Harry. W. J. Birt, the second son, is a switch engineer at Parsons, and has followed railroading since 1885; he has one daughter, Marie. Cora Estelle (Richard), the third child and eldest daughter, is the wife of a brakeman in the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company. Emma J. (Daniels), the youngest daughter, resides at Osage City, Kansas, and has two daughters, Bertha and Gertrude. George M. Birt, the youngest son, is still at home with his parents.

In politics, Mr. Birt is a stanch Republican, solely upon his convictions, and takes a great interest in the leading questions of the day. He served several terms as trustee of the Labette County High School, and one term as alderman in the city council of Parsons. He also ranks high in fraternal circles, affiliating with G. A. R. Post No. 81, of which he is past commander and in which he has filled all other chairs. He is also a member of Lodge No. 117, A. F. & A. M., having been made a Mason at Chambersburg, Illinois, in 1873, while on a visit to his mother. Having been reared in the Baptist faith, Mr. Birt and fam-

ily worship at the First Baptist church, of Parsons, of which Rev. J. T. Crawford is pastor. Mr. Birt is popular among his associates, and richly deserves the success which has crowned his efforts, as he started at the foot of the ladder, without capital, but with a strong determination to succeed. His portrait accompanies this sketch.

**J**AMES C. GILLIES, a boiler-maker in the shops of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, at Parsons, Kansas, was born in Marshall, Michigan, in 1863, and is a son of William and Christina (Caldwell) Gillies.

William Gillies was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1815. He was reared and schooled in his native town, and when a young man served his apprenticeship as a weaver. Preferring a mechanical line, however, he turned his attention to the trade of a boiler-maker, which he followed during his active business career. He came to America in 1852, and first located in Detroit, Michigan, whence he went to Marshall. He finally moved to Vincennes, Indiana, where he died in 1890. Mr. Gillies married Christina Caldwell, who was born in 1821, and died in 1896. They reared a family of seven children, namely: William, who resides in Parsons, Kansas; Agnes, deceased; Maggie (Ritterscamp), who lives in Kansas City, Missouri; Christina (Elwood), also a resident of Kansas City; Robert, who lives in Washington, Indiana; James C.; and John.

James C. Gillies attended the public schools of Vincennes, Indiana, and afterward took up the trade in which his father had been so proficient. He went into the shops of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad Company, at Vin-

cennes, in his early manhood, and remained with that company until he moved west. Mr. Gillies removed to Kansas in 1887, and entered the boiler shops of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, where he has since remained. He is a very efficient workman, and quite popular with his fellow employees.

Mr. Gillies married Lena Berkemier in 1883. She was born in Vincennes, Indiana. They are the parents of two children,—Estella and Edward. Mr. Gillies is a member of the Fraternal Aid. He is a Republican, in politics, and takes an active interest in local affairs. In 1898 he was elected city councilman from the First Ward. He was re-elected in 1900, and still serves in that body. He has been on the board of health for two years.



J. BOUCHARD, general foreman of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway shops at Parsons, Kansas, has followed railroading for a number of years, and ranks among the foremost mechanics of the present day. He is an Illinoisan by birth, and was reared in the vicinity of St. Louis, Missouri. His father, Stephen Bouchard, was an expert blacksmith and machinist, having charge of the railroad shops of the North Missouri Railway, at St. Charles, Missouri. That road is now a part of the Wabash system.

Deprived of his father by death at an early age, Mr. Bouchard began work in 1870, when fourteen years old. He entered the railroad shops at St. Charles, Missouri, as a machinist's apprentice, completely mastered that trade, and became an unusually fine machinist at the early age of nineteen years. He remained at home with his mother until he reached maturity, working as fireman on the North Missouri Railway, and afterward serving as engineer on the same road.

Mr. Bouchard subsequently accepted a position as machinist on the Chicago & North-Western Railway, and was located in Iowa, where he married Ella Fowler, who was reared near Council Bluffs, Iowa. He worked on that system until 1880, and the following year was spent in the same capacity on the Texas & Pacific Railway. In 1881 he entered the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company as gang foreman at Denison, Texas, was promoted the following year to be general foreman, and served as such at Palestine, Texas, until 1887. Returning to Denison, he filled the position of roundhouse foreman one year, and having been again advanced to be general foreman, he filled that position at Greenville, Texas, until 1891. He was then transferred again to Denison, where he continued until October, 1896, when he was advanced to his present important position, that of general foreman of the large and well appointed railroad shops of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, at Parsons, Kansas; he succeeded W. H. Brehm, the present master mechanic.

Mr. Bouchard's task is one of great importance and magnitude. He has from 12 to 15 foremen of the various departments under his direct supervision, and gives personal attention to each and every department.

The subject of this sketch stands high in fraternal circles. He was given the first Masonic degree while residing in Iowa, and step by step has climbed the rugged path until he now boasts of being a Mystic Shriner. He is a member of the Parsons Commandery, K. T., having been knighted at Greenville, Texas, and of Hella Temple, A. A. O. N. M.

Deprived of his father by death at an early age, Mr. Bouchard began work in 1870, when fourteen years old. He entered the railroad shops at St. Charles, Missouri, as a machinist's apprentice, completely mastered that trade, and became an unusually fine machinist at the early age of nineteen years. He remained at home with his mother until he reached maturity,

S., of Dallas, Texas. In addition, he is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, as is also Mrs. Bouchard, and they are members, respectively, of the K. O. T. M. and L. O. T. M. Politically, Mr. Bouchard is a Republican. He has proved to be a valuable adjunct to the success of the system, and the officials of the road value his services highly.

**N**ON. NELSON CASE, formerly probate judge of Labette county, Kansas, and for over thirty years a leading member of the bar of the county, has spent his entire professional life in Oswego, where he has been prominently identified with reformatory and educational enterprises. He was born in Wyoming county, Pennsylvania, April 22, 1845, and, the same year, was taken by his parents to Lee county, Illinois. He graduated from the Illinois Normal University in 1866, after which he taught school for one year. He then attended a course of lectures in the law department of the University of Michigan, and graduated therefrom in 1869. In May, 1869, he came west to Oswego, Kansas, where he has since been located and has practiced law.

Judge Case was appointed probate judge by Governor St. John in June, 1880, and was twice thereafter re-elected, at the end of which time he declined to be again a candidate. He has twice been a candidate for a place on the supreme bench,—in 1896 for chief justice, and in 1898 for associate justice, and, although he did not receive the nomination, he stood next to the winning man in 1898. In each instance he received the solid vote of Southeastern Kansas, the section in which his record as a lawyer is best known. The members of the bar of Labette county gave him their heart-

iest support, and the entire press, as well as the leading citizens generally, offered the strongest testimony in favor of his qualifications. One of the leading editors of the county, who has known him intimately many years, says of him: "I have been intimately acquainted with him for more than twenty-five years—in fact from the time he started in the law business in Oswego, and have always found him one of the most conscientious and honorable men of the profession,—by some called an anomaly—an honest lawyer. He is regarded by the bar of this county, and of all Southeastern Kansas, as the ablest jurist, safest counselor, and best lawyer we have." Another prominent business man says: "He is regarded by many as the ablest attorney in Labette county." Judge Case has a first-class clientage and practices in all courts, including the Supreme Court at Washington.

He has always had a deep interest in educational matters, and was president of the board of education of Oswego for twelve years, also regent of the State Normal School several years. He was trustee and treasurer of the County High School at Altamont the first five years of its existence, and was trustee of Oswego College for many years. He has been a trustee of Baker University since 1883, and for several years has been president of the board. He was connected with the State Sunday-School Association and the State Temperance Union, for many years, and is serving his twenty-ninth year as superintendent of the M. E. Sunday-school in Oswego. In May, 1890, he was a delegate from the South Kansas conference to the general conference of the M. E. church, which met in Chicago.

Judge Case has twice been married, his first wife dying in 1892. By his second wife he



has a daughter, Miriam, born in April, 1901. He also has raised two adopted children. A portrait of Judge Case appears on a preceding page as the frontispiece of this work.

**J**OSEPH G. BRADLEY, manager of the Oswego Opera House, and a well known tonsorial artist of that city, was born near Roanoke, Virginia, August 12, 1857, and is a son of William L. Bradley.

William L. Bradley was born in Virginia in 1833, and followed mercantile pursuits during his active career. He left Virginia about 1867, and went to Camp Point, Adams county, Illinois, where he lived for seven years. He then moved to Shelby, Shelby county, Missouri, and remained there one year. In the spring of 1877 he located in Humboldt, Allen county, Kansas. In 1893 he moved to Oswego, Labette county, and, as his health failed him in 1897, then retired from active business. He is a Republican, in politics, and served as a justice of the peace for some time. He also held various township offices. Mr. Bradley married Nancy Perfater, who was born in Virginia, in 1833, and they reared the following children: Joseph G.; Sarah E. (Parrish); Amanda (McGilvery); Mary, deceased; Minnie; John, deceased; and Mark and Robert, deceased.

Joseph G. Bradley received his schooling in Illinois, and learned his trade, in 1882, in Iola, Kansas. He lived in Humboldt seven years, and also in several other towns for short periods, after which, in 1890, he located in Oswego, where he has since resided. Mr. Bradley at one time owned the City Hotel, one of the best hotels in Oswego. In January,

1901, he purchased the residence of J. B. Montgomery, which is a modern structure, and one of the prettiest homes in Oswego. Mr. Bradley is one of the most enterprising men in Oswego, and has done much to draw good business enterprises to the city. He was one of the prime movers in securing the developers of the new gas field now being operated near the city.

Mr. Bradley married Henrietta C. Rose, in 1882, and they are blessed with three children, namely: F. Rose; A. Gertrude; and Mabel M. Mr. Bradley is a member of the Knights of Pythias, M. W. of A., and I. O. O. F. Politically, he is a Republican. He has a large circle of friends in Oswego, and is well known throughout the surrounding country as a man of honest and upright principles. As before stated, he is the manager of the Oswego Opera House.

**M**RS. SARAH (DUNCAN) DECOW, widow of Abner DeCow, is one of the earliest settlers of Labette county, Kansas. She is also one of the most highly esteemed residents of the town of Bartlett, where she built the third house erected.

Abner DeCow was born in Canada, November 12, 1826, and was a farmer by occupation, being one of the very first settlers of Labette county. He took up a claim in Hackberry township, built a cabin 16 by 18 feet in size, and lived there until his death, in 1870. He is still remembered by the oldest residents of the county as a man of high principles and an honor to the community.

Mrs. DeCow was born in Newcastle, Ohio, in 1837, and is a daughter of Alexander Dun-

can, who was born in Virginia and followed farming. He married Sarah Lepley, who was born in Pennsylvania, and of the 14 children born to them, the following are now living: Kate; Samuel; Sarah; Frances; Shannon; Alice; Amanda; Cleora; M. Jackson; and John. Sarah Duncan lived in her native county until she was sixteen years old, and then moved with her parents to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where she was married. She accompanied her husband to Labette county, Kansas, in 1867, and located in Hackberry township. After the death of her husband she moved to Bartlett, where she built the third house in the town, and for eight years conducted a restaurant. She built her present home in 1895,—an eight-room, frame house of comfortable size. She is a woman possessed of many high traits of character, and is universally admired and respected. She and her husband became parents of seven children, as follows: George; Charity; Shannon; Maggie; Oliver; Frank; and Mabel, deceased.

**J**OSEPH SCOTT, one of the pioneers of Labette county, Kansas, is now living a retired life at Altamont. He settled in the county in 1869, and was engaged in farming in Fairview township until 1900, when he retired from active work. Mr. Scott was born in Atlantic county, New Jersey, in 1827, and is a son of Joseph and Amelia (Folk) Scott.

Joseph Scott, Sr., was born in the city of Philadelphia, and was a tailor by trade. This occupation he followed until his death at the early age of thirty-five years. His wife died at the age of seventy-two years. They reared

five children, as follows: George, Mary (Depety), and Jane, deceased; Joseph; and Harmon, of Mound Valley, Kansas.

Joseph Scott left Atlantic county, New Jersey, in 1833, and went to Wabash county, Illinois, where he was reared and schooled. He began farming in that county, and followed it there until 1869. He enlisted in Company K, 130th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., in 1862, at Marshall, Illinois. He enlisted as a corporal, and was mustered out as a sergeant at Springfield, Illinois, July 7, 1865. He was in General Grant's Army of the Mississippi, and was at Vicksburg, and on the Red River expedition. He was taken prisoner on April 8, 1863, at Sabine Cross Roads, Louisiana, held captive at Tyler, Texas, thirteen and a half months, and exchanged soon after the close of the war. He then returned to his home in Clark county, Illinois, and there followed farming until 1869, when he sold out and moved to Kansas. He settled in the southeast quarter of section 1, Fairview township, Labette county, and lived upon this land until 1900, when he sold it and located in the city of Altamont, where he now resides.

Mr. Scott married Hannah Rice, a native of Kentucky, who died in 1897, having given birth to the following children: Amelia, wife of J. Blizzard, of Joplin, Missouri, by whom she has five children,—Whitlock, Joseph, Thomas, Benjamin and Benton; Lincoln, who married Carrie Farley, and has two children, Alva and Ethel; Ann E., wife of L. Collins, of Oswego, Kansas, and mother of three children,—Lottie, deceased, Edith, and Ollie; and James; and Fred, of Oswego, Kansas. Mr. Scott married Margaret Drumond, in 1899. He is a member of Topping Post, No. 268, G. A. R.; and belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association. He is a strong Republican in

politics, and has served two terms as justice of the peace. The family belong to the Methodist church.

**G**EORGE W. LANDON, prominent among the younger generation who are rapidly forging their way to the front, is an industrious farmer, located in the southwest quarter of section 3, township 35, range 20, Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas. He was born in Pettis county, Missouri, in 1863, and is a son of Ezra Landon.

Ezra Landon was born in Pennsylvania and was a wagon-maker by trade, and also a farmer. He died in Bartlett, Kansas, in 1901. He married Miss S. Kellerman, who was born at Elkhart, Indiana, and they became parents of the following children: Ellen (Bowen), of Chetopa, Kansas; Alice; David; George W.; and Lydia, deceased.

George W. Landon lived in his native county until he went, with his parents, to LaPorte county, Indiana. Thence the family moved to Labette county, Kansas,—arriving here on December 23, 1879. They came by wagon and were seven weeks in making the trip. Lydia, the sister of George W., died on the way. They located at Chetopa, and in 1880 George W. went to the Indian Territory, where he resided for one year. In 1881 he returned to Labette county, and, being then but seventeen years of age, lived with his father, in Hackberry township. There he continued until 1890, when he purchased his present farm in section 3. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and is doing well.

George W. Landon was joined in marriage with Anna Ephrain, who was born in

Texas, in 1867, and is a daughter of H. M. Ephrain. Her father was born in Poland, and was a tailor by trade. He located in Labette county in 1869, and farmed here for twenty-two years, but now resides in Texas. He married Miss R. Brierley, who was born in England, and they had four children: Samuel, deceased; Levine; Anna; and Jessie, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Landon have had two children: Yetta, deceased; and Dora. Mr. Landon is a Republican, in politics; he belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**A**LLEN R. REECE is an enterprising and progressive business man of Bartlett, Labette county, Kansas, where he is proprietor of a grocery and hardware store. He is a man of public spirit, takes a deep interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the town and county, and has a large circle of acquaintances and friends. He was born in Davidson county, North Carolina, in 1852, and is a son of P. H. Reece.

P. H. Reece was born in North Carolina in 1818, and is a farmer now residing in Cedar county, Missouri. He married Rebecca Hicks, who was born in North Carolina, in 1832, and they were the parents of seven children, as follows: Haley J.; Allen R.; Paul A., postmaster and a merchant of Bartlett, Kansas; John C.; Nora, deceased; Lena; and Mary.

Allen R. Reece was but three years of age when he was taken by his parents to Johnson county, Missouri, where he was reared. At an early day he applied himself to agricultural pursuits and remained in Johnson county, Missouri, until he located in Kansas. He settled

in Bartlett, Labette county, Kansas, in November, 1891, and since that time has been engaged in the grocery and hardware business. He carries a very complete line of goods and is meeting with great success.

Mr. Reece was united in marriage with Anna Bean, who was born in Canada, in 1862, and they have one daughter, Bertha, who graduated from the County High School at Altamont with the class of 1898, and is now teaching in the public schools of Bartlett. Politically, Mr. Reece is a firm supporter of the principles of the Republican party. Fraternally, he belongs to Chetopa Lodge, No. 73, A. F. & A. M.

---

**R** F. LONNECKER is a prominent merchant of Bartlett, Labette county, Kansas, and is the owner of considerable valuable farming property in Hackberry township. He was born in Preble county, Ohio, in 1854, and is a son of G. W. Lonnecker.

G. W. Lonnecker was born in Ohio, and followed the trade of a butcher. He married Theodosia Collins, also a native of Ohio, and they reared four children, as follows: John; William, deceased; Cynthia; and R. F.

R. F. Lonnecker was six years of age when he was taken by his parents to Logan county, Illinois, where he lived until he moved to Kansas. He arrived in Labette county, Kansas, in February, 1878, and for one year resided southwest of Chetopa, in Hackberry township. He then spent two years on the Davis farm, and in 1881 located in Richland township on the Robert Phillips farm, and then purchased the widow Sowder's property, where he farmed until 1882. The following year he purchased the old J. Watson farm, and

lived upon it until the fall of 1883, when he moved to Chetopa. He was located in the city for eighteen months and then purchased his home farm in Hackberry township,—the southeast quarter of section 26, township 34, range 20, on which he resided for ten years. He also owns the southwest quarter of section 25. In 1895 he rented both properties, and moved to the town of Bartlett. Since that time he has been a merchant of that town, and is meeting with good success. He is a man of many estimable traits of character, and has many staunch friends in the community.

Mr. Lonnecker was united in marriage with Juliette Burwell, who was born in Logan county, Illinois, in 1855, and they have two children: George E. and M. N. Politically, the subject of this sketch is a Republican. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian church.

---

**J**OSHUA GRAHAM, a prominent and influential farmer of Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, is located in the northeast quarter of section 26, township 33, range 18. He possesses a pleasing personality, is a good business man and has many friends throughout his section of the county. He was born in Marion county, Kentucky, in 1843, and is a son of Harden Graham.

Harden Graham was born in Kentucky, and was a farmer by occupation. He was joined in marriage with Harriet Brownfield, also a native of Kentucky, and they were parents of three children: Charles, Narcissus, and Joshua.

Joshua Graham was reared in Kentucky, and resided there until he came to Kansas in





W. H. LEWIS.



the winter of 1870, and located in Mound Valley township. There he resided until 1880, when he moved upon his present farm in Canada township. He carries on general farming and has met with great success.

Mr. Graham was united in matrimony with Alice Hulen, who was born in Missouri in 1853, and they reared the following children: C. E., deceased; Fred; and Scott, who is attending the County High School at Altamont, and is a member of the class of 1902. Mr. Graham is a Democrat in politics, and served four years on the school board of his township. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and to the Knights and Ladies of Security. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian church.



H. LEWIS, the efficient and accommodating ticket agent for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, at Parsons, Kansas, whose portrait is shown herewith, is an Englishman by birth, his birth occurring in the city of London, in July, 1837. He is the eldest of the five children of W. H., Sr., and Mary C. (Flynn) Lewis. The others are, Charles V., Rev. V. A., Mattie and Elizabeth.

W. H. Lewis, Sr., was a wealthy merchant of London, England, previous to the financial crisis in 1848. During that year, he left England, and with one of his sons crossed the ocean and located in Rochester, New York, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits. His wife was left to settle the property affairs, which she did, and started in 1849 with the rest of the family, to join her husband in America. While en route to the United States, cholera broke out on board the steamer, and she fell a victim to that dread disease, died and

was buried at sea. Her trunk, which contained money and other valuables, was thrown overboard,—leaving the children in disagreeable circumstances. In 1857, W. H. Lewis, Sr., moved to Pana, Illinois, where he carried on a successful mercantile business until cut off by death in 1865, when over sixty years old. Politically, he was a staunch Republican.

Charles V. Lewis, eldest brother of W. H., had the distinction of being the first division freight agent appointed by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, at Parsons, and worked in that place in 1880 with the Union Pacific administration. He is now general freight agent for the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. system at Baltimore, Maryland. Rev. V. A. Lewis, another brother, was at one time pastor of the First Presbyterian church, in Boston, Massachusetts. He was educated for the ministry at Princeton, New Jersey, but his career was cut short by death in October, 1899, at Dansville, New York. Mr. Lewis' two sisters, Mattie and Elizabeth, are still living and reside in Pana, Illinois, where the former is a competent instructor of music. The latter has been twice married, and is now a widow. Her first husband's name was Overholt; her second husband's, Hubbard. Both are deceased. She has numerous children in Pana, and her sons are in charge of coal mines at Pana.

Up to his twelfth year, W. H. Lewis had been well schooled in London. When he attained the age of twenty years, he began his railroad career as a clerk in the office of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. When the Civil War broke out, he promptly responded to President Lincoln's call for volunteers, and took an active part in many battles of that fierce conflict, among them some of the very first engagements, and also some of the last.

In 1861, he enlisted in Company B, 72nd Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. His regiment participated, with the 2nd N. Y. Vol. Inf., in the Little Bethel fight, and assisted in carrying off the field the first United States officer wounded, who was Lieut. Grebble, of Philadelphia. After the siege of Vicksburg, he was detailed to serve in the Army of the Tennessee with McPherson, who was afterward killed, Mr. Lewis assisting the general from the field after the fatal shot. He afterward accompanied Gen. Sherman on his famous "March to the Sea," having as his partner and bunk-mate, G. W. Whittle, afterward a well known evangelist. Although Mr. Lewis took part in many engagements, he was not wounded, but his health was impaired.

Returning from the war, he resumed railroad work as agent at Mattoon, Illinois, on the Indianapolis & St. Louis Railroad, now included in the "Big Four" system. He remained at that point for sixteen years, as both freight and passenger agent. Resigning, he went to New York, and worked in the same capacity for the Delaware & Hudson Company, at Schenectady, until October, 1881, when he again went west and assumed his present position at Parsons, Kansas.

Mr. Lewis has entire charge of all business transacted at the new depot. He has one assistant, E. N. Pace, who is night agent, Mr. Lewis being held responsible for the proper management of the ticket department. By his fidelity to the company, his courteous and obliging attentiveness to patrons of the road, and his strict discharge of the duties imposed upon him, Mr. Lewis has commended himself to the officials of the road, and to the traveling public in general.

November 24, 1868, W. H. Lewis was united in marriage with Maria E. Beach, a

sister of the wife of Charles V. Lewis, of Baltimore, previously mentioned in this sketch. Mrs. Lewis was born at East Bloomfield, New York, December 31, 1840, and is a daughter of Hunn and Ann (Welfare) Beach, both of whom died while Maria was very young. She was reared in Canandaigua, New York, by her grandparents, and while on a visit to some relatives in Illinois she made the acquaintance of Mr. Lewis, who after a brief courtship persuaded her to become his wife, instead of returning to the East. Mrs. Lewis has three sisters, namely: Mrs. Sarah Lewis, of Baltimore, Maryland; Mrs. Julia Sampson, wife of the editor of the *Salina Journal*, at Salina, Kansas, one of the oldest newspaper men in the state; and Mrs. Carrie Pettit, wife of Dr. Pettit, of Florida.


Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have reared two sons, Herman C. and William B., both of whom were born in Mattoon, Illinois. The former married Ella Holloway, and resides in Sedalia, Missouri, where he is cashier on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway. William B., also a railroader employed on the same system, is now serving as a switchman in the yards at Parsons, and still makes his home with his parents. Like their father, the sons vote the Republican ticket, and never swerve from absolute party fidelity.

Mr. Lewis is a charter member of the A. F. & A. M., of Mattoon, Illinois, of the Knights Templar, of Parsons, of which he is a past eminent commander; and also Abdallah Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the G. A. R. of the same place,—his eldest son affiliating also with the Knights Templar.

His interests having been identified with those of Parsons since 1881, Mr. Lewis early in the history of the city purchased land and

built a fine residence. Some time later, however, this residence was sold and is now occupied by William McKee, the druggist. Mr. Lewis afterward purchased the Lee Clark property, at 1720 Morgan avenue, which is an attractive and pleasant home. He joins with his family in worshipping at the Presbyterian church, and, being charitably disposed, assists all worthy enterprises.

---

 OLIN HODGE, one of the best known citizens of Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, is located in section 25, township 33, range 17, where he took a claim in 1869. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1841, and is a son of C. and Jane (Clark) Hodge.


C. Hodge was born in Scotland and was a mason by trade. His union with Jane Clark resulted in the birth of 12 children, of whom but two are now living, namely: Colin; and W. C., a farmer living in Canada township, west of his brother's place. W. C. Hodge served in the Civil war, in Company A, 31st Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and came to Labette county in 1870. He married Lizzie Michals, a native of Pennsylvania, and they had five children: Mary A.; Colin O.; Jane; William W.; and Fannie.

Colin Hodge was twelve years of age when he came to America, in 1853. He landed at New Orleans, and immediately thereafter located in Illinois, and resided there until the Civil War was in progress. He enlisted in Company I, 22d Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and served about three years, when he re-enlisted in Company A, 2d Reg., U. S. Vet. Vol. Inf., and was discharged on February 10, 1866. He was in battle at Belmont, Missouri, and at Stone

River; he accompanied General Sherman in his memorable march, and was shot on two different occasions. He then returned to Illinois and lived there until 1869, when he came to Kansas, on foot. He located in Labette county in October of that year, and took as a claim the southeast quarter of section 25, township 33, range 17. He built a cabin, 14 by 16 feet in size, and has made all the improvements on the claim. He was engaged in farming in a successful manner for many years, but now rents out most of his land.

Mr. Hodge was united in marriage with Susan J. Smith, who was born in Troy, Ohio, in 1851. In politics, he is a Republican, and has served as justice of the peace; he has also been township treasurer, and was clerk of the district court for one term. Fraternally, he is a member of Oswego Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., Modern Woodmen of America, and the Grand Army of the Republic.

---

 W. YOUNG is one of the leading agriculturists of Labette county, Kansas, and is located in Canada township, in section 36, township 33, range 18. He was born in Adair county, Missouri, in 1864, and is a son of Solomon and Nancy (Peters) Young.

Solomon Young was born in Harrison county, Indiana, in 1807, and is a farmer and wagon-maker, residing in Canada township, Labette county. He was united in marriage with Nancy Peters, who was born in Tennessee, and they became the parents of the following children: Benjamin, Louisa, Catherine, Ann, and S. W.

S. W. Young was virtually reared in Kansas, having been brought to Labette county,

in 1871, by his parents, who located in Canada township, about three miles west of his present home. He lived with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-one years, and in 1885 located in Clark county, Kansas. In 1886, he returned to Labette county, and conducted a meat market at Mound Valley until 1891. He then purchased and moved upon his present farm in section 36, Canada township, where he is engaged in general farming. He also runs a thresher, and deals, to a large extent, in stock. He is a prosperous man and a good business manager, and is meeting with deserved success.

March 5, 1885, Mr. Young was married to Ardy Hall, who died in Clark county, Kansas, June 9, 1886. No children survived. Mr. Young married, secondly, Etta Stonecipher, who was born in Adair county, Missouri, in 1874, and they have two children: Zona and Clifford. In politics, he is a strong supporter of the Republican party. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mound Valley Lodge, No. 967. In religious views, he is a Methodist, but not a member of the church.

**L**OUIS PETERSON, a well known farmer of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, is living in the southeast quarter of section 8, township 35, range 18. He was born in the southern part of Denmark, on an island, in 1849. He is a son of P. Peterson, a farmer of Denmark, who married Anna Nelson, and reared two children: Louis and Trinnie.

Louis Peterson lived in Denmark until 1869. When he was twenty years old, he came to the United States, landing at Portland, Maine. From there he went to Wisconsin,

where he lived one year. In 1870, he removed to Iowa, and made that place his home until his final removal to Kansas. In the spring of 1872, he located on his present home farm, built a cabin, 14 by 16 feet, in size, and began the improvement of his land. He has carried on general farming, and is considered a progressive farmer. He has a comfortable home, and is well-to-do.

Mr. Peterson was united in marriage with Mrs. Thompson, who is now deceased. They reared four children, namely: Maggie (Woods); Fred A., deceased; Dora (Bowman); and Belle L. Mr. Peterson's present wife's name was Mary J. Schloat. To them have been born four children, namely: O. A., Bertha, Louis, and Jessie C.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the Populist party. He has served as treasurer of his township, and has been a member of the school board for sixteen years. Fraternally, he is a member of the Anti-Horse-thief Association.



**G**W. CHRISTMORE, a well-to-do farmer living in section 2, township 35, range 18, Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Frederick county, Virginia, in 1837. He is a son of John and Rachel (Wright) Christmore. John Christmore was a native of Virginia, as was his wife, and he died at the age of fifty-five years. He and his wife were the parents of ten children, but two of whom are now living,—G. W., the subject of this sketch; and B. J., of Virginia.

G. W. Christmore lived in Virginia for a number of years. He carried on farming in his native county. In March, 1871, he removed to Kansas, where he bought his present home

farm for \$100. After entering this land, he began to make improvements and to cultivate the soil. He is a very successful agriculturist, and his home is a very comfortable one. He is engaged in general farming.

He married Elizabeth Findley, who was born in Virginia, in 1849, and they have reared four children: W. B., a farmer in Howard township, who married Anna Nevill, a native of Virginia, and has two children, Blanche and Ivan; Newton, who lives at home; J. Frank, also a farmer of Howard township, who married Mattie Bean, of Rice county, Kansas, and has four children,—Esther, Irene, Bryan, and Enid; and William, who lives at home.

Mr. Christmore is a staunch Democrat in politics, and has served on the school board in his township for a number of years. He is a member of the United Brethren church.



R. ROTER, secretary and manager of the Cold Storage & Crystal Ice Company, of Parsons, Kansas, whose portrait is herewith shown, is a thoroughly self made man. His history reads as an unbroken chapter of results successfully achieved as, step by step, his genius and energy have pushed him to the front. Mr. Roter was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1851, and is a son of J. H. and Margaret (Elderbrook) Roter. The father now lives in the suburbs of Cincinnati, the mother having died May 1, 1901. They reared six children, namely: L. R.; John F., of Topeka, a Santa Fe Railway employee; Sophia (Vandolah), a widow, of Dillsboro, Indiana; Louise, now Mrs. John Currey, of Indianapolis; Dora (Younger), of Butte, Montana; and Harry, a citizen of Dillsboro, Indiana.

Mr. Roter attended the district schools of Indiana, and when a youth of seventeen years went to Titusville, Pennsylvania, where he also attended school; he then clerked in a wall-paper and house furnishing store. In 1878, he went to the oil regions in the vicinity of Bradford, Pennsylvania, and with a small capital entered into business for himself. Although his cash capital was limited, his ample stock of pluck and energy carried him safely through, as his success in business dates from 1878.


He was engaged in the grocery business at Bradford, Pennsylvania, until 1881, with satisfactory results. He then moved to Abbotsford, Wisconsin, and conducted a very flourishing general merchandise store until 1897, when he moved to Parsons to accept his present important position as secretary and manager of the Parsons Cold Storage & Crystal Ice Company, of which W. J. Wade, of South McAlester, Indian Territory, is president, and William Busby, of Parsons, is vice-president and treasurer. The plant has a capacity of 50 tons of ice per day, and is located one mile from the retail office, corner of Central and Washington avenues and just north of the city limits.

Ten men are employed at the plant during the summer months, and about five in the winter season. Ten or 11 men are also occupied in distributing the product of the plant, making in all, a force of about 20 men at the cold storage room of the plant. The plant was established in 1888, by Mr. Lewis. It subsequently went into the hands of Kimball, Edwards & Busby, and later was transferred to the present control. The retail room and office at 200 Central avenue, is 25 by 60 feet, in dimensions, and here Mr. Roter is in charge, assisted by John I. Russell, assistant secretary and general

office man. Mr. Roter travels somewhat; the company has had no difficulty in disposing of its product without employing regular traveling salesmen.

Mr. Roter has been twice married. July 24, 1878, Alice B. Thompson, daughter of Rev. J. B. Thompson, of Butler, Pennsylvania, became his wife. She died in 1883, leaving one daughter, Edith B., who is now attending Armour Institute at Chicago. She is preparing for kindergarten work as an instructor. Four years after the demise of his wife, in 1887, Mr. Roter was married to Cora Thompson, sister of his first wife, and a native of Delaware, Ohio. Her college education was obtained at Butler, Pennsylvania. Two children have blessed this union, Bessie P. and Charles A.

In politics, our subject is a Republican, and served his party as village treasurer at Abbotsford, Wisconsin. He is quite prominent in fraternal circles; he was made a Mason at Colby, Wisconsin, and served as junior warden and senior warden, after which he was chosen worshipful master of the lodge; he became a Royal Arch Mason at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. He is also a member of the M. W. of A. In his religious belief, he favors the Presbyterian church.

MORY H. BREIDENTHAL. This gentleman has been one of the public spirited farmers of Labette county, Kansas, since 1878. He resides on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 33, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township. He was born in Sibley county, Minnesota, in 1860, and is a son of M. Breidenthal.

M. Breidenthal was born in Bedford coun-

ty, Pennsylvania, in 1819. At the age of twenty-one years he engaged in the foundry business, and in 1847 entered the transfer business at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. At one time he had over 100 head of horses in use. In 1878, he located in Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, where he resided until his death, which occurred April 7, 1884. In politics, he was formerly a Republican, and afterward a Greenbacker. He married Henrietta Young, who was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. They reared: Henrietta, Anna, Ella, John W., Emory H., and Charles.

Emory H. Breidenthal received his early mental training in the common schools of his native county, and at the age of eight years moved with his parents to Indiana, where he completed a common school education. In March, 1878, he located in section 23, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, where he lived until 1890, when he located on his present farm, on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 33. He carries on general farming and stock raising. Mr. Breidenthal is well liked in his vicinity, and his assistance is always sought in any enterprise which tends to benefit the community in which he resides.

Mr. Breidenthal married Ella Bickham, who was born in Fairmount, Ohio, in 1862. She is a daughter of Rev. T. D. and Anna (Masters) Bickham. Rev. Mr. Bickham was born in Pennsylvania, and for many years conducted a nursery business in Ohio. He located in Kansas, in 1869, and resided here until his death. His widow is now the wife of S. M. Stansbury. Mr. and Mrs. Breidenthal had the following children: Otto and Mary A., deceased; Oren; Hazel; and Leslie.

Mr. Breidenthal is a member of the People's party. He has served as clerk of his







L. R. ROTER.

township, for one term, and has been a member of the school board for three years. Religiously, he and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

John W. Breidenthal, his brother, was state bank inspector from 1893 to 1901, and was nominated by the People's party and the Democratic party for governor of the state of Kansas, but was defeated by a comparatively small majority.

**H**ARVEY SIMMONS. This gentleman is one of the well known farmers who live in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas. Mr. Simmons was born in Carroll county, Ohio, December 19, 1847, and is a son of a Methodist clergyman, whose name was Daniel Simmons.

Daniel Simmons was born in Ohio, in 1818, and his death occurred in 1900. Besides attending to his ministerial duties, he was also a farmer. He married Levina Allbaugh, who was born in Ohio, in 1821, and they reared the following children: O. W., S. B., Harvey, Sabina, Alice, Amanda, Elma, and Phoebe A.

Harvey Simmons received his primary education in his native county, and when he was eight years old his parents removed to Martin county, Indiana, and settled near the White River. This was Mr. Simmons' home until 1872, when he began to work for himself. He farmed for a while, and on May 22, 1876, set out for the west. He went, by wagon, from Indiana to Labette county, Kansas, and was four weeks in making the trip. He located on his present farm in Howard township, in section 25, township 34, range 17, in September of that year, and entered his claim at Independence, Kansas. There was a 10-by-12-foot cabin on the place, but no land had been broken.

Mr. Simmons set to work and soon had much of the land in a state of cultivation. He has made extensive improvements and his farm is one of the best in the township. In 1899, he erected a five-room frame house. He carries on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Simmons was united in marriage with Rebecca Sibert, who was born in Ohio, in 1849. This union has resulted in the birth of nine children, whose names are as follows: Levina, Charles, Daniel, and John A., all deceased; Hattie, of Coffeyville; Ivy M., deceased; Katie; Ida, who is at home, and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Simmons is independent in politics, and has held numerous township offices. He belongs to the Farmers' Alliance, and to the Anti-Horsethief Association. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church. He is a man of honor and principle, and his friends are many.

**J**AMES A. TOWNSEND. Among the many prominent farmers residing in Howard township, Labette county,

Kansas, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He located there in 1877, and has been one of the most influential citizens in the township. Mr. Townsend was born in Clark county, Indiana, in 1845, and is a son of Isaac Monroe and J. Ann (Harris) Townsend.

Isaac Monroe Townsend was born in Clark county, Indiana, and was a cooper by trade, also following farming. He married J. Ann Harris, who was born in Kentucky, and they reared three children: James A., Hulda C., and Elam B.

James A. Townsend lived on his father's farm, which was near the Ohio river, for a

number of years. He decided to try his luck in the West, and in 1876, set out for Kansas, making the trip by wagon. He used four horses, and was thirty days in completing the journey. In 1877, he bought his present home farm, which is the southwest quarter of section 30. He has lived on that place ever since, and has made extensive improvements on it. He entered the claim in 1877, at Independence, Kansas. He carries on diversified farming, and has been very successful.

Mr. Townsend was united in marriage with Miss E. A. Gossett, who was born in Clark county, Indiana, and they have been blessed by the birth of seven children, namely: Mellicie, Allen E., Annie, Pinkney, Eden, Luella, and Jessie. Our subject is a member of the Republican party. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

**P**HILIP GERS, who is serving as county commissioner of Labette county, Kansas, is a well known farmer of Howard township. He was born in Germany in 1856, and is a descendant of one of the oldest German families, his ancestors being traced back, in Germany, as far as 1685. Before that time they were residents of France. Mr. Gers is a son of Philip and S. (Dierstein) Gers, who make their home with him.

Philip Gers, Sr., was born in Germany. He married S. Dierstein, and they reared seven children: Philip, Sophia, Kate, Henry, Charles, Minnie, and G.

Philip Gers, whose name appears at the opening of this personal biography, was reared and educated in Germany, and in 1862, started on the voyage to America. He landed at New York, and thence went to Fort Wayne, Indi-

ana, where he lived until 1871, and then moved to Kansas. After a short residence here, he went farther west, to Colorado; and on to California, returning to Kansas in 1879, when he bought his home farm in section 3, township 35, range 18, in Howard township, Labette county. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and is very successful. He is a man of thrift and energy, and his success has been due entirely to his own efforts. The citizens of Howard township and Labette county have shown their confidence in him by electing him to the office of county commissioner. This office he has filled ably, and to the satisfaction of all.

Politically, Mr. Gers is a Populist, and is serving his second term as county commissioner. He was trustee of Howard township for a period of six years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Valeda Lodge, No. 7511. Religiously, he is a member of the German Reformed church. Mr. Gers is a public spirited man, and takes a deep interest in all measures designed to promote the welfare of the township and county in which he lives.

---

**M**YRON COOK is a prominent farmer and an extensive land owner of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas. He has been engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years, and has been a resident of this county since 1871. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1853, and is a son of Reuben Cook.

Reuben Cook, a farmer by vocation, was born in Pennsylvania. He married Deborah H. Brown, a native of Pennsylvania, and they reared the following offspring: Kersey; How-






MR. AND MRS. JOHN E. DICKERSON.



ard; Walter B.; Mary, deceased; Millard; Myron; Clifford; Anna M.; and Alice B.

Myron Cook lived in his native state until March, 1871, and followed farming. He then located in Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, in the northeast quarter of section 16, township 35, range 19. On the premises was a cabin, 10 by 12 feet, in size, and five acres of the land had been broken; all the other improvements have been made by Mr. Cook. He entered his claim and resided on the property until 1884, when he located on his present farm, the northwest quarter of the same section, which gave him the north half of that section. He has made many important improvements on both farms, and now has one of the most valuable tracts of farming land in his section of the county. He deals in stock, in addition to following general farming, and has a cattle ranch of 12,000 acres 75 miles northwest of his farm.

Mr. Cook was united in marriage with Mary F. Leib, who was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in 1854, and they have reared three children: Edgar S., Jessie A., and Clifford. In politics, he earnestly supports the principles of the Republican party. Fraternally, he is a member of Edna Lodge, No. 345, A. F. & A. M.; and Edna Lodge, No. 1636, M. W. of A. His family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOHN E. DICKERSON. This gentleman is one of the most prominent and highly respected farmers living in Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas. He was born in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1852, and is a son of J. Dickerson. The latter was born in Pennsylvania, in 1803, and

was of German descent. His wife was also a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in 1807. Their children were as follows: Samuel, Sarah, Margaret, Jane, James, Susan, Louisa, Joshua, Mary and John E.

John E. Dickerson lived in his native county twenty-seven years when he moved to the southern part of Missouri. There he applied himself to carpenter work, which trade he had followed a number of years. He remained in Southern Missouri until 1887, when he located in Parsons, Kansas, in the vicinity of which he has since resided. In 1893, Mr. Dickerson moved to Neosho county, where he farmed until 1900. Mr. Dickerson located on his present farm in Neosho township in 1900. It contains 480 acres. The homestead is situated on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 27, and is famous as the Hopkins farm. There he carries on general farming, in which he has been very successful. He gave up his trade as carpenter after reaching Kansas, with the exception of work done on his own farm. Mr. Dickerson is a man of thrift and energy, and has made many improvements on his farm.

Mr. Dickerson was united in wedlock with Mary L. Uhrich, who was born in Ohio, in 1851. Her father, Jacob Uhrich, was a farmer and miller, who lived in that state, and was a very prominent man. Mr. Dickerson and his wife have been blessed with four children, namely: Lottie, who married a Mr. Boecker, and makes her home in Mexico; Joshua U.; Charles C.; and Ina. Mr. Dickerson is a Democrat, in politics, and takes an active interest in the political affairs of the county. He served one term as justice of the peace of Labette township. Mr. Dickerson belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association. He is a member of the following fraternal or-

ganizations: A. F. & A. M.; Select Friends, Parsons Lodge; and the A. O. U. W., Parsons Lodge, No. 12. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he is an active worker. Mr. Dickerson is a man of honesty and integrity, and he has many warm friends in the county. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson accompany this sketch, being presented on a foregoing page.



O. BOOKTER, a well known farmer of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, residing in section 35, township 34, range 19, is a native of Germany, and was born in 1840. He is a son of John Bookter, also a native of Germany. John Bookter died at the age of forty-nine years. He had eight children, namely: Catherine; William, deceased; George; Mary; Christina; Mattis; Barbara; and J. O.

J. O. Bookter was two years old when his parents came to America. They landed at New York, and went from there to Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where Mr. Bookter lived until he located in Kansas. He was but ten years old when his father died, and after that worked for six years in a hotel in order to support his mother. He subsequently worked in a sawmill for a period of nine years. Mr. Bookter enlisted, in 1862, in Company E, 4th Reg., Wis. Vol. Cavalry. He served until May 28, 1866, was engaged in scouting most of the time, and experienced many hardships. After the war, he returned to Wisconsin, where he worked for a lumber company for six years. In 1873, he removed to Labette county, and located in Elm Grove township, a half mile south of his present farm. In 1883, he bought his present farm in section 35, and has made

many improvements on the place. He built a story and a half five-room house, which adds greatly to the appearance of the farm. Mr. Bookter carries on general farming, and is an energetic and thrifty worker. He has purchased a fine residence in Coffeyville, Kansas, which he will occupy in the future.

Mr. Bookter married Justina Rashler, who was born in Germany, in 1849. She came to the United States when she was fourteen years old. Mr. Bookter and his wife have reared four children, namely: William, a baker, in Coffeyville, Kansas; Maggie; Charlie; and John.

In politics, Mr. Bookter is a Republican. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In religious attachments, he is a member of the German Lutheran church.



AMUEL M. STANSBURY, a resident of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, is living in the northeast quarter of section 33, township 34, range 19. He was born May 4, 1834, in Perry county, Indiana, and is a son of John and Mary (Rutherford) Stansbury.

John Stansbury was born in Maryland, and was a stone-mason and farmer by occupation. He was also a preacher of the M. E. church. He married Mary Rutherford, who was a native of Indiana. They reared the following offspring: Samuel M., William, Joseph, John, Benjamin, Sarah A., and Mary E.

Samuel M. Stansbury was six years old when his parents moved to Jones county, Iowa. Later they moved to Missouri, and still later to Woodson county, and then to Wilson county, Kansas. Mr. Stansbury enlisted October 15, 1861, in Company G, 9th Reg., Kans. Vol.

Cav., and served three years and three months. Part of that time he was on duty as a scout in Colorado. After the war, he returned to Wilson county, where he lived until 1879. He then took up a claim in Harper county, Kansas, where he lived for one year, after which he moved to Missouri, and two years later to Winfield, Kansas, where he remained three years. He then went to Fort Scott, and to Arkansas. In the fall of 1890, he went to the National Military Home, at Leavenworth, Kansas, where he remained until 1893. He then went to the Kansas State Soldiers' Home at Dodge City, Kansas, where he remained about one year, when he returned to the National Military Home. He next moved to Denver, Colorado, then to Wichita, Kansas, and in November, 1899, settled in his present home. Mr. Stansbury had made his first trip to Labette county, Kansas, in 1863, when some Confederate soldiers, who had been killed by the Indians, were buried. He carries on general farming, and has 15 acres of fruit. He is very successful in the raising of the latter, and each year finds an increase in the products of his farm.

Mr. Stansbury was first married August 4, 1863, at Humboldt, Kansas, to Rachel E. C. Done, by whom he reared six children, as follows: John F., deceased; Mary M.; Lawrence R.; Eva F. G.; Benjamin M.; and Alice W.

Mr. Stansbury's second wife, whom he married November 30, 1899, was Mrs. Anna (Masters) Bickham, who was born in Fairmount, Ohio, in 1839. She is a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Masters. Samuel Masters was born in Morristown, New Jersey, and was a miller and carpenter by trade. His wife was also a native of New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Masters reared 11 children, of whom those living are: Eunice, John, Anna, William, Em-

ma, Barbara, Caroline, and Rachel. Mrs. Anna (Masters) Bickham, Mr. Stansbury's present wife, first married Thomas D. Bickham, who died September 1, 1889, aged fifty-three years. He moved to Labette county in 1869, and located about nine miles south of Parsons, where he remained with his wife and family five years. He then sold out, and in 1874, moved to the northeast quarter of section 33, Elm Grove township, where Mrs. Stansbury has since resided. By her former husband, Mrs. Stansbury had 11 children, eight of whom are now living, as follows: Samuel, Ezra, Ella, Theodosia, Caroline, Rhoda, Thomas, and Alpha.

Mr. Stansbury is independent in politics. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Stansbury is a public spirited and upright citizen, and has many friends in Labette county, where he is very well known.



**D**AVID HOY, a prosperous farmer of Labette county, Kansas, is located in the southwest quarter of section 11, Montana township. He is a man of good business ability, and has met with great success in the pursuit of his calling. Mr. Hoy was born in Perry county, Illinois, in 1861, and lived there until he was brought by his parents to Kansas, in 1868. He is a son of Daniel Hoy, who was born in Ireland, and came to America at the age of fifteen years.

Daniel Hoy came to Kansas, in 1868, and located in the southwest quarter of section 11, Montana township, Labette county, upon which he lived until his death, in February, 1901. He married Caroline Muir, who was born in Missouri, and now resides on the home

farm with her son. The following children were born to bless this union: David; Sarah J.; James; Martha; Mary; Henry; Dee; and Emma.

David Hoy succeeded his father as owner of the old homestead, and has since engaged in general farming. He is possessed of many excellent traits of character, and has numerous friends throughout his section of the county. His mother is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

**J**OHN HUGHES, ex-mayor of the city of Edna, Kansas, and at present engaged in farming in Elm Grove township, in section 33, township 34, range 19, was born in Spencer county, Kentucky, in 1841. He is a son of John and Mary (Watson) Hughes.

John Hughes, Sr., was born in Spencer county, Kentucky, where he carried on farming all his life. He married Mary Watson, who was also a native of that county, and they reared the following children, namely: John; Thomas and Margaret E., deceased; Samuel, who is a farmer in Union county, Kentucky; William, who lives in Kentucky; Isaac, who is a hotel-keeper in that state; Sarah A.; and George, deceased.

John Hughes, whose name heads this personal sketch, was reared on a farm, and his first business venture was in the dry goods line. He also farmed for some time in Kentucky. Mr. Hughes removed to Kansas, October 2, 1874, and improved and entered a claim at that time. There was a cabin on the land, which was 12 by 14 feet in dimensions, in which he lived for a while. He was elected mayor of Edna, and served in 1898 and 1899, during

which period he rented his farm. With the exception of the two years spent in Edna, he has made this farm his home since he located in the county. Mr. Hughes has given nearly all his time and attention to agricultural matters, but has managed to keep thoroughly informed on the affairs of the day. He has been an interested and active worker in all local enterprises, and is a very popular man in the community.

Mr. Hughes married Susie Froman. She was born in Spencer county, Kentucky, in 1841. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes have had two children, namely: George E.; and Mary L., deceased, who married W. W. Goodwin and had four children,—Mabel C., J. W., Arthur W., and Susie M.

Mr. Hughes is a Democrat, in politics. He has been township treasurer for two terms, and has served on the school board for twenty years. The subject of this sketch is a member of Edna Lodge, No. 345, A. F. & A. M., of Edna, Kansas. He helped to organize it, was a charter member and was its treasurer for eleven years. He had taken his dimit from Taylorsville Lodge, No. 210, of Taylorsville, Kentucky, where he was made a Mason in 1863. He and his family are members of the Baptist church, which Mr. Hughes helped to establish in Edna.

---

**L**C. FREEMAN, one of the earliest settlers of the southern part of Labette county, Kansas, and now a resident of Elm Grove township, was born in Ohio in 1829. He is a son of L. C. Freeman.

L. C. Freeman, Sr., was born in Morristown, New Jersey, in 1794. He followed the

occupation of a farmer all his life. He married Susie Harris, and they had the following offspring: E. L.; W. H.; L. C.; Mary; A. M.; G. W.; and H. C.

L. C. Freeman was reared in Henry county, Indiana. He first came to Kansas in 1858, when it was a territory, and lived in what is now Douglas county. He returned home in 1859. In 1861 he enlisted in Company A, 36th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served for a period of three years. He was a captain in his regiment, and later became major. He was in the 4th Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland. In 1869 Mr. Freeman again came to Kansas, and settled in Hackberry township, Labette county, four miles east of his present farm. He took up a claim, which he entered in 1872, at Independence, Kansas. He brought lumber from Arkansas, and erected a cabin on the claim, which was 12 by 14 feet in size. Mr. Freeman was one of the first settlers in the southern part of Labette county, and has watched the growth of the county with much interest. He lived on his old farm until 1884, when he bought his present farm in Elm Grove township, which is in the southeast quarter of section 4, township 35, range 19. In 1884 he built a frame house, one and a half stories high, and containing six rooms. Mr. Freeman is a very successful farmer, and has a thorough knowledge of agricultural matters.

Mr. Freeman was united in marriage with Nannie E. Wiles, who was born in Henry county, Indiana, in 1843. They have been blessed with three children, namely: Arthur W.; Anna C.; Carey. Mr. Freeman is a Republican in politics, and has served his county at different times. He was trustee of the township for two years, township clerk for one year, and has been a member of the school

board for a number of years. Mr. Freeman is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian church. He is a man who is well liked by all, and his friends in the county are many.



RS. ELIZABETH (HARMAN) GUNTER, who is living on the west half of the northeast quarter of section 15, Montana township, has been a resident of Labette county, Kansas, since 1866, and has many friends of long years' standing in this section.

Mrs. Gunter was born in Graves county, Kentucky, in 1816, and is a daughter of Isaac Harman, a native of Virginia. She lived in her native county until 1850, when, with her husband, she moved to Carroll county, Missouri, where she remained until she came to Kansas, in 1866. She was united in the bonds of matrimony with David Gunter, in Kentucky, in 1836.

David Gunter was born in Georgia in 1809, and became a farmer. He came to Labette county, Kansas, in 1866, and purchased the west half of the northeast quarter of section 15, Montana township, which he entered at Independence, Kansas, the consideration for the property being \$300. There he was engaged in farming until he died, February 18, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Gunter became the parents of the following children: David, George, Andrew, and Isaac, deceased; Martha; Emily; Lizzie; Mary; Mollie; and Ollie.

Mrs. Gunter built a two-story, six-room house in 1888, which is of comfortable size, and well arranged. She rents most of the land, and is an excellent manager. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**J**AMES H. HOGUE is a prominent agriculturist residing in section 23, Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, having moved to this county in 1866. Mr. Hogue was born in Vigo county, Indiana, in 1840, and is a son of Nathan and Emeline (Ray) Hogue.

Nathan Hogue, who was born in Tennessee, in 1804, followed farming throughout his entire life; he died in Indiana, in 1858. Nathan Hogue's wife was also born in Tennessee, in 1809, and they reared six children, as follows: Elizabeth A., Mary A. and Rebecca, deceased; James H.; Albert H., who resides with James H.; and Eliza, deceased.

James H. Hogue was reared in his native county, and lived there until he enlisted in the army in 1861. He served four months in the 11th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., under Gen. Lew Wallace, and then re-enlisted in Company L, 5th Reg., Ill. Vol. Cav., and served three years and eight months, under Colonel Updegraff. He participated in the battles of Helena, Arkansas; Curran River; Black River; and in the siege of Vicksburg. He was taken prisoner with 39 others, but was exchanged after sixty days. During the latter part of the war he served as a scout. After its close he returned to Illinois, and was engaged in farming until April 7, 1866, when he removed to Labette county, Kansas. He located upon his present farm,—the northwest quarter of section 23, Montana township. He purchased his claim, and entered it at Humboldt, Kansas. A cabin, 14 by 16 feet in size, stood upon it, and in this he conducted a general store for a period of eighteen months. During this time he traded at Fort Scott and Kansas City. He built a home on the farm, in 1868, and made many improvements. He built his present two-story, frame house, containing six spacious

rooms, in 1883. Mr. Hogue is engaged in general farming and has met with considerable success. He has been very active in the development of the county and township, and helped to organize the first school in the township. He has served on the school board for twenty-seven years. In politics, he is a Republican, and has served three years as township trustee.

Mr. Hogue was united in marriage with Esther Drake, and they became the parents of three children: Artie; Dellie (Stewart); and Kansas, a lawyer, who married Miss J. F. Wolfe, of Cherokee county, Kansas. Mr. Hogue's wife died in 1884, and he formed a second union in 1886, wedding Nannie Moore, who was born in Illinois, in 1866. Fraternally, he is a member of Oswego Post, G. A. R. His wife is a member of the Christian church.

**B.** SHULTZ, a druggist of Montana, Labette county, Kansas, is also postmaster of that town, an office he has filled in the most satisfactory manner since May 29, 1897, when he received his appointment. He was born in Darke county, Ohio, in 1849, and is a son of Daniel B. and Eliza (Simons) Shultz.

Daniel B. Shultz was born in Maryland, in 1818, and was a millwright, carpenter and wagon-maker. He died in Labette county, Kansas, in 1900. He married Eliza Simons, who was born in Pennsylvania, and they reared eight children, as follows: John H.; Thomas J.; O. B.; Allie G.; Mary S.; Martha A.; LeRoy, deceased; and Francis E.

O. B. Shultz was but eleven years of age when, with the family, he came to Kansas, and lived in Anderson county, until 1868. He



then enlisted in the 19th Reg., Kans. Vol. Cav., and fought the Indians for six months. He came to Labette county in June, 1869, and located north of Montana, in Neosho township. Later he bought a claim one and a half miles north of Montana, and entered it at Humboldt, Kansas. He made improvements on the farm, and lived upon it until 1877. He then located in the town of Montana, and worked with his father in the wagon shop for three years, after which he spent three years in travel. At the end of that time he returned to Montana, engaged in the drug business, and has since conducted a drug store there, being a registered pharmacist. He is a Republican, in politics, and in 1897 was appointed postmaster of Montana. He has also served as clerk, and treasurer, of the township, and was a justice of the peace for five years. Fraternally, he is a member of Oswego Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M.

---

**J**AMES DIXON, a gentleman who has been engaged in agricultural pursuits in Labette county, Kansas, for many years, is located in the southwest quarter of section 23, in Montana township. He is a man of intelligence, takes an earnest interest in the growth and development of the county, and has a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Dixon was born in Perry county, Illinois, in 1862, and is a son of Andrew and Ann (Osburn) Dixon.

Andrew Dixon was born in Scotland, in 1837, came to the United States when fifteen years of age, and located in Illinois, where he followed farming. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company A, 31st Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until July 9, 1865, when he received an honorable discharge. For a part

of the time he acted in the capacity of a teamster. After the close of the war he returned to Illinois, and was engaged in farming until 1867, when he came to Kansas. The trip was made overland, by wagon, and consumed three weeks. He located on the southwest quarter of section 23, Montana township, Labette county, the present home of James Dixon, where he resided until his death, in 1899. He married Ann Osburn, who was born in Ireland, in 1834, and came to the United States when eleven years of age. She now resides at the home of her son, James. Their union resulted in the birth of several children, of whom the following are living: James; Mary (Claxon), of Sherman, Kansas, who has two children,—Minnie and Clarence; and Andrew C., who resides at home.

James Dixon was reared in Illinois until 1867, when he was taken to Kansas by his parents. He has always been engaged in tilling the soil, and at the present time owns the original claim of his father in Labette county. He is occupied in general farming, and is meeting with deserved success. He is serving on the school board of his township.

---

**O.** WILSON, a gentleman prominent in banking circles in Labette county, Kansas, has had charge of the Mound Valley Bank since 1889, and is a gentleman of high standing in the community. He was born in Stark county, Ohio, in 1844, and is a son of Peter and Dency (Wheadon) Wilson.

Peter Wilson was born in Stark county, Ohio, in 1817, and died January 1, 1870, on the farm on which he was born. He married Dency Wheadon, a native of New York, and

they reared the following offspring: Nancy J.; J. O.; A. W., a farmer in Ohio; and I. F.

J. O. Wilson was brought up on a farm and lived at home until 1862, when he enlisted in Company B, 115th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and was discharged July 5, 1865. He then returned to his home in Ohio, and attended the public schools. He was next a pupil in Mount Union College for two years, after which he taught school. He was a teacher in Illinois for one and a half years, after which he returned to Ohio, and farmed until 1872. In that year he came west to Kansas, and located at Neodesha, Wilson county, where he taught school for two years. He was then engaged in the mercantile business there for four years, at the end of which time he moved to Elk county, and was engaged in a similar line until 1880. He returned to Neodesha, where he was employed in the Neodesha Savings Bank two and a half years. Later he went to Illinois and there resided until 1884. He again returned to Neodesha, and accepted the appointment of assistant postmaster of that town, which office he filled until 1885. In September, 1886, he moved to Oswego, Kansas, entered the private bank of C. M. Condon, and has since been identified with the banking business. Mr. Wilson took charge of the Mound Valley Bank in 1889, and since that time has resided here. He is a very shrewd business man, and has handled the affairs of the bank in a most capable manner.

In 1873 Mr. Wilson was united in marriage with Josephine P. Rice, and they reared three children: Arthur R., who is in the banking business in Coffeyville, Kansas; Cora J., deceased; and Ernest H., who is now attending college. Mrs. Wilson died in 1883.

In 1889 Mr. Wilson married Mrs. A. R. Hickenbottom, who served as county superin-

tendent of schools for two years. They became the parents of one daughter, Josephine, who lives at home. Fraternally, Mr. Wilson is a member of Oswego Lodge, A. O. U. W., and of the Knights and Ladies of Security, of Mound Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are members of the Presbyterian church, of Mound Valley. In political belief, Mr. Wilson is a staunch Republican. He gives his support and influence to that party, but does not aspire to any political office.



MRS. SARAH E. (HUDSON) LOCKWOOD, a resident of Walton township, Labette county, Kansas, was born, in 1837, in Morgan county, Illinois, where she resided until she removed to Kansas, in 1875. She is a daughter of Isaac and Susan (Clark) Hudson. Her father was born in Kentucky, in 1813, and died in 1901. He was a farmer, and followed agricultural pursuits in Nebraska during the latter part of his life. Her mother was an Ohioan by birth. They reared nine children, Ann Maria; Sarah E.; John H.; James W.; Charles C.; Noah C.; Andrew; Nancy J.; and Mary.

Mrs. Lockwood first located in Crawford county, Kansas, where she resided until 1883, when she moved to Labette county, and settled on her present farm, the southwest quarter of section 23, in Walton township, where she carries on general farming and stock raising. In 1897 Mrs. Lockwood remodeled her residence, and made it a very neat and attractive country home.

Mrs. Lockwood has been twice married. Her first husband was John A. Hammond, who died in 1884. There were no children by this union.





AUGUST NELSON.

In 1883 the subject hereof contracted a second matrimonial alliance, this time uniting her fortunes with Walter A. Lockwood, a native of Ohio. He had been previously married to Athelia Gibbons, of Maryland, by whom he had the following children: Charles; Jennie; Wilber; and Annie. Charles is at home, and manages the farm; Jennie married C. B. Sweet, of Kansas City; Wilber started on an expedition to the Klondike regions, and was last heard from at Juneau; Annie is a teacher in the Parsons public schools. Mr. Lockwood is a carpenter by occupation, but has not followed that trade for many years. The subject of this sketch and her husband are surrounded by the children of the latter's first marriage, and all enjoy their comfortable country home.



**A**UGUST NELSON, whose portrait is shown herewith, first came to Labette county, Kansas, in 1889, and is one of the best known agriculturists of Mound Valley township. He superintends the work upon his 240 acres of land, although he is absent much of the time in connection with railroad contracts. He was born in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1853, and is a son of Christian Nelson.

Christian Nelson still lives in Sweden, and is a mechanic by occupation; he followed the business of a brick manufacturer during his active years. He was the father of three sons and one daughter; the daughter is deceased. The sons are as follows: Fred, who is a foreman on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, and is at present in Texas engaged in the contracting business with his brother August; Gustav, who lives in Sweden; and August.

August Nelson served his apprenticeship under government contractors in Sweden, as a stone and brick-mason four years, without pay; he was employed in the construction of government buildings. In 1883 he went to South America and worked for the Argentine Republic as a mechanic in brick and stone work. He came to the United States in 1884, and first worked at Chicago for one year. In 1886 he entered the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company as a mechanic, and three months later was made a foreman. For the past two years he has been in Texas, engaged in building piers and abutments for large bridges, and has a force of 40 men under his supervision. His headquarters at present are at Denison, Texas, but, generally, are at Parsons, Kansas. He is directly under A. B. Manning, of the building and bridge department of the road. He has had wide experience in this line of work, and is without a superior in the handling of men and material. He located in Labette county in 1889, and bought a farm south of Mound Valley, where he resided a couple of years. In 1891, he purchased his present fine farm four miles north of Mound Valley, in section 14, township 32, range 18; the land had been taken up by Mr. Stotts. Mr. Nelson has built a modern 10-room house and, about eight years ago, put up a fine barn. He has about 70 head of cattle, and intends to handle Hereford cattle more extensively. He superintends the work upon the farm of 240 acres, although he does none of it, as he is away on his railroad business much of the time. Wheat is his staple crop. He has a farm of very attractive appearance, by reason of its many fine fruit and shade trees, and it is one of the best cultivated pieces of land in this section.

Mr. Nelson was united in marriage with

Ann Lester, who was born in this country, and they are the parents of two sons, Paul and Wilhelm. In politics, the subject of this sketch is a Republican. Fraternally, he belongs to the Parsons Lodge, A. F. & A. M. In religious views, he is a Lutheran, and his wife is a Methodist.

**G**EORGE SELLMANSBERGER. To be able to look back over almost a third of a century spent in active usefulness in one locality, is, indeed, an enviable experience; and such is the privilege of the subject of this sketch. George Sellmansberger is a pioneer farmer of Walton township, Labette county, Kansas, where he is now spending the sunset of life in ease, having passed the eighty-first milestone of his existence. He was born in Germany, in 1819, and came to America when thirty-two years of age. Locating in the state of Minnesota, he there followed agricultural pursuits until 1869. Desiring to locate in a milder climate, Mr. Sellmansberger then came south to Kansas. The trip was made overland in a wagon, and consumed about a month's time. Upon his arrival in Labette county, he took up a claim comprising the south half of the northwest quarter of section 25, in Walton township. This farm was the scene of many a hard year's toil before it reached its present state of cultivation. It is still the home of its aged and honored owner, whose activity would shame the indolence of many a younger man.

He married Theresa Holtzheuar, who was born in Germany, in 1820. They reared a large family composed of 12 children, as follows: Elizabeth; John; Mary; Joseph;

George; Robert; Benjamin; Godfrey; Theresa; Mary (2d); Rudolph; and John (2d). John and Rudolph are engaged in mining; George and Godfrey are farmers,—the latter having charge of the home place, for his father. Joseph has also followed agricultural pursuits, and owns the southeast quarter of section 27, Walton township, Labette county. Mr. Sellmansberger has made a close study of the most practical and approved methods of farming, and is now reaping the harvest of his hard work in the possession of a sufficiency of well tilled land, and a comforting bank account. Although virtually retired from active pursuits, he still takes a great interest in municipal affairs, and is a public spirited citizen. He is independent, in politics; he and his family are members of the Catholic church.

**L**EVI CORRELL, a prominent and successful farmer living in section 27, Walton township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the leading business men of the county. He has one of the finest and best improved farms within its limits, and keeps abreast of the times as to all modern improvements used in tilling the soil. Mr. Correll was born in Wayne county, Ohio, in 1845, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine (Floyd) Correll.

Jacob Correll was born in Pennsylvania, and was a tailor by trade, although he followed farming the greater part of his life. He married Catherine Floyd, who was also a native of Pennsylvania, and they reared eight children: Abraham; Daniel; Samuel; Levi; Maria; Amanda; Catherine; and David.

Levi Correll moved with his parents in 1854 to Iowa, where he attended school and,



later, to Clinton county, Iowa, where he was engaged in farming for some time. In 1876 Mr. Correll moved to Kansas, and after looking at numerous farms finally decided on his present place, which he accordingly bought. It is the northwest quarter of section 27, Walton township, and is one of the finest farms in the county. Mr. Correll has a thorough knowledge of farming matters, and takes great pride in the care and management of his property. He is a thrifty, industrious man, and has always been a careful and steady worker. The attractive appearance of his home speaks well for his untiring efforts.

Mr. Correll was united in marriage with Kate McCoy, who was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1847. She is a daughter of Patrick McCoy, and came to America when she was twenty-one years old. Mr. Correll and his wife have had eight children, namely: Albert, who works on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway; J. Charles; Joseph F.; Daisy E.; Christopher C.; Mack; George W.; and Clarence, deceased.

Mr. Correll is a Republican, in politics, and has served as trustee of Walton township one term, and as clerk of the school board for a number of years. Mrs. Correll is a member of the Episcopal church. Mr. Correll has recently erected a fine, new, nine-room house, which is an attractive addition to his farm. He is very popular in the community, and is a kind and helpful neighbor.



ANDREW W. MEADOR, a highly respected citizen and farmer of Labette county, Kansas, has been living for the past few months in section 20, North township. He was born in Sumner

county, Tennessee, in 1841, and is a son of Christopher and Vermilia (Snider) Meador.

Christopher Meador was born in Virginia, in 1800, and was a farmer all his life. His wife was born in Virginia, in 1810. They reared the following children, namely: William; Elmore; Sarah; Rose; James; Elizabeth; Henry; and Andrew W.

Andrew W. Meador lived in Tennessee until the beginning of the Civil War, when he enlisted in Company D, 52d Reg., Ky. Mounted Infantry. He served eighteen months, during which time he saw hard, active service. After the close of the war, Mr. Meador located at Franklin, Kentucky, where he lived until he moved to Kansas, in 1872. He spent the winter of 1872 and the spring of 1873 in Parsons. His next move was to Neosho township, where he lived until 1877. He then sold his farm, and went to Montana, where he operated a brick yard for one year, and then returned to Labette county. He rented the old Taylor farm in North township, and lived there for fifteen years. In 1895 Mr. Meador moved to Parsons. In 1890 he bought his present home in section 20, North township, where he has since resided, and has successfully carried on general farming.

Mr. Meador married Eliza Payne, who was born in Sumner county, Tennessee, in 1839. She is a daughter of J. C. and Jane (West) Payne. J. C. Payne was born in 1812, and he and his wife were natives of Tennessee. They reared the following children, namely: Eliza, the wife of Mr. Meador; Mary; William; Franklin; Sarah; Emma; and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Meador have been blessed with eight children, namely: Minnie L., wife of William Wood, now living in Parsons; Mattie, who married William Morning, a carpenter of Parsons; Robert, who married Rosa Williams,

of Parsons; Lizzie, the wife of Lee Jackson, living in Kentucky; Charles, a carpenter; Millie; and Joseph and Walter, deceased.

Mr. Meador makes a specialty of raising poultry and small fruits, in which he is very successful. He is a Republican, in politics, and has served on the school board in North township for four years. He is a member of the G. A. R., Parsons Post, No. 81. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Meador is well known in Labette county, where he has many warm friends.

---

**J**AMES H. WHEAT, highly respected as one of the most prominent and able farmers in North township, Labette county, Kansas, is living in the east half of the northwest quarter of section 1. A man of honest, upright principles, he has won many friends in the community. He was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, in 1848, and is a son of V. G. and Dorothy M. (Johnson) Wheat.

Dr. V. G. Wheat was born in Kentucky in 1810, and died in that state in 1867. His birth and death took place in the same house. His wife, Dorothy M. Johnson, was also a native of Kentucky. She bore him the following children: T. B. J., a resident of Parsons, Kansas; James H., the subject of this sketch; Anna; S. A.; O. P., deceased; and A. V. and W. W., of Liberty township.

James H. Wheat was reared and educated in his native state. He lived in Kentucky until he was twenty-four years old, during which time he attended school and assisted in farming. In 1872 Mr. Wheat left Kentucky, and located at Parsons, Kansas, making the journey with his brother, A. V. Wheat, on horse-

back. They were twenty-one days on the way. After reaching Parsons, Mr. Wheat engaged in farming, which he followed for nine years, and afterward kept a shoe store, until 1885. He then sold out his business, and located on a farm six miles east of Parsons. After living on this farm for six years, he bought his present farm,—the east half of the northwest quarter of section 1. There he has resided ever since, engaged in general farming. Being a thrifty and energetic worker, he has made many improvements on the farm, and has been very successful with his crops and stock.

Mr. Wheat was married, in 1884, by the Hon. Nelson Case, to Eva L. Bronson. She was born in Laporte, Indiana, and is a daughter of Denison and Dora (Martin) Bronson. Denison Bronson was born in Laporte, and his wife was born in Buffalo, New York. They were the parents of six children, namely: Eva L., the wife of Mr. Wheat; Mattie; Frank; William; Louis; and Albert. Mr. Wheat and his wife have been blessed with eight children, namely: Dora; Agnes; Denison; Louis; Naomi; Dorothy; Orville; and Andrew. They are all living.

Mr. Wheat is an active worker in the township, and has served on the school board. He is a Democrat, in politics. He belongs to the Anti-Horse Thief Association. Religiously, he favors the Christian church.

---

**L**EONARD ULLERY, the leading gardener of Labette county, Kansas, is well known in the county, and in those surrounding. He has been in the gardening business all his life, and is thoroughly conversant with the business in all its

different phases. Although most of his time is given to business, he manages to find leisure to assist in any work which is for the good of the community. Mr. Ullery was born, May 1, 1838, in Indiana, where he lived until he was twenty years of age. He learned gardening when a youth, and also farming. In 1858 Mr. Ullery moved to Carroll county, Indiana, where he farmed until 1863. From Carroll county he moved to Pike county, Illinois, where he bought a farm, on which he lived for fourteen years. He sold this farm in 1877, and moved to his present home in North township, Labette county, on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 17.

Mr. Ullery was married, in 1863, to Elizabeth Wagner, who was born in Clinton county, Indiana, and is a daughter of David and Esther (Wolf) Wagnér. Her parents were both natives of Ohio, and they reared the following children: Leonard; Elizabeth, the wife of Mr. Ullery; John; and Barberina. Mr. Ullery and his wife are the parents of five children, as follows: Samuel, a carpenter, of Parsons, Kansas; Catherine; Mary; Susie; and Hannah. Mr. Ullery is a Republican, in politics. Religiously, he is a member of the German Baptist church.

**I**SAAC N. BIGGS, living in section 22, Fairview township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the prominent farmers of the county. He was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1842, and is a son of Zachariah and Annie (Elliott) Biggs.

Zachariah Biggs was born in 1813, and was a native of Henderson county, Kentucky. He died, in 1853, in Ross county, Ohio, where he held the office of justice of the peace for

twenty years. He married Annie Elliott, who was born in Piketon, Ohio, in 1821, and is now living in New London, Ohio. They were the parents of the following children: Sarah J., Rebecca (Ross) and Robert W., deceased; Isaac N., the subject of this sketch; William H., of Danville, Illinois; Frances (Newman), of New London, Ohio; Sanford, of Clay county, Missouri; and Zachariah, deceased.

Isaac N. Biggs lived on the farm with his parents until 1862, when he enlisted in Company I, 60th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and was attached to the Army of the Shenandoah. He took part in the battles of Cedar Creek, Harper's Ferry, and in several skirmishes. He was taken prisoner at Winchester, paroled within three months, and sent to Camp Chase, Ohio. He was mustered out at Chicago, in 1863, and reenlisted in Company I, 7th Reg., Ohio National Guards, on the call for 100-day men. He was mustered out at Camp Denison, Ohio, at the expiration of his term; again enlisted, in Company I, 185th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and served until October, 1865. He was finally mustered out at Lexington, Kentucky, and returned to Ross county, Ohio. Shortly after his return from the war, Mr. Biggs moved to Madison county, Ohio, and, in 1868, to Sangamon county, Illinois, where he remained until 1880. In 1880, he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and settled on a farm in Neosho township, where he lived until 1884. He has since made his home in section 22, Fairview township, where he has been engaged in general farming. He deals honestly with all men, and is highly respected by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Biggs was united in marriage with Elsie Shenaman, who was born in Ohio, in 1848, and died in 1897. She was a daughter of Abraham and Elsie (Miller) Shenaman.

Abraham Shenaman was born in Wooster, Ohio, in 1810, and his death occurred in Lyon county, Kansas, in 1857. His wife was also a native of Wooster, Ohio, and died in 1867, at the age of fifty-five years. They reared the following children, namely: Samantha J. (Barber), of Decatur, Illinois; Ellen (Dickerson), of Illiopolis, Illinois; Albert, deceased; Elsie, who was the wife of Mr. Biggs; William, of Bay City, Michigan; Francis, of Illiopolis, Illinois; and Charles S. Mr. and Mrs. Biggs were the parents of four children, namely: Ivie L. (Deathrage), of Labette county; Floyd E., of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Charles R.; and Harry, of Labette county. On August 8, 1900, Mr. Biggs contracted a second marriage, by wedding Mrs. Beatrice Francisco.

Mr. Biggs belongs to the Republican party. He has been a member of the school board for the past six years. He is a member of the Christian church, of Oswego.

**A**LBERT SYKES, who settled in Labette county, Kansas, in 1872, is one of the most prominent and progressive farmers in Oswego township, where he is located in the southeast quarter of section 8. He was born in Oswego county, New York, April 13, 1817, and is a son of Daniel and Orpha (Lumbard) Sykes.

Daniel Sykes was born at Pawlet, Rutland county, Vermont, December 6, 1785, and in 1810 moved to New York State, and settled in Oswego county on a farm. He resided there until 1852, and then moved to Kenosha county, Wisconsin, where he died, April 13, 1863. January 21, 1810, he was united in marriage with Orpha Lumbard, who was born in Massachusetts, January 17, 1787, and died in Wis-

consin, in 1864. They reared the following children: Elvira and Loren, deceased; Byron, who resides at Green Bay, Wisconsin; Albert; Sumner, of Labette county; and Milo, Bloomer and Eliza (Boyd), deceased.

Albert Sykes lived in Oswego county, New York, until 1841, when he became a sailor on Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, and was afterward advanced to be first mate. In 1843, he went to Lake county, Illinois, and purchased a farm, but after a short time rented the farm, and returned to the lake as first mate of a vessel. In 1850, he formed a company, and on May 15 of that year started for California, where he arrived in the following August. He remained there until 1855, and then left San Francisco, by the Nicaragua route, for New York, where he arrived in May, 1855. He went directly to his farm in Lake county, Illinois, which he soon after sold, and moved to Bremer county, Iowa, where he purchased 1,400 acres of land. He resided there until 1872, when he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and settled on his present farm,—the southeast quarter of section 8, Oswego township. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been very successful.

In 1860, Mr. Sykes was united in marriage with Emily Higgins, who was born in Warren county, Pennsylvania, in 1835, and is a daughter of Eugene and Susan (Smith) Higgins. Her father was born in Vermont, in 1813, and at an early day moved to Warren county, Pennsylvania, where he lived a short time.

In 1837 Mr. Higgins located in Chautauqua county, New York. In 1851, he moved to Bremer county, Iowa, and from 1868 to 1878 lived at Carthage, Missouri. Thence he moved to Scott county, Arkansas, where he lived until his death, in 1883. His wife was born in 1814, in Saratoga, New York, and died

at Carthage, Missouri, in 1871. They reared 10 children, namely: Emily (Sykes); Harriet, Amanda and Hubert, deceased; Horace, of Jasper county, Missouri; Horatio, of Delta county, Colorado; Mary, deceased; Antoinette (Montague); Ida (Winkler); and Susan (Montague).

Emily Higgins, wife of Mr. Sykes, was but two years of age when she was taken by her parents from her native town to Chautauqua county, New York. At the age of sixteen years, she moved with her parents to Bremer county, Iowa, and there taught school from 1851 to 1860. By her union with Mr. Sykes, she had the following children: Harry D., deceased; Ernest, of New Orleans, Louisiana; and Bert, of Oswego, Kansas. Harry D. was a prominent business man, of Enid, Oklahoma, at the time of his death, on September 4, 1894. He was for a time a bookkeeper in an Oswego bank, and in 1888 went to Galveston, Texas, where he was identified with the Santa Fe railway. In 1893, he went into the banking business at Enid, Oklahoma, and thus continued until his death.

**H**ARMON FRANCISCO, deceased, an early settler and highly respected farmer of Fairview township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Cayuga county, New York, in 1831, and died in Labette county, Kansas, in 1893, at the age of sixty-two years. His death was much regretted by all, as he was a man of honest and upright principles, and worthy of the highest esteem. He was well known throughout the county, and was a public-spirited citizen. Mr. Francisco was a son of David and Percis (Morley) Francisco.

David Francisco was born in 1790, in New York, and served through the War of 1812. His death took place in Cayuga county, New York, in 1843. His wife was born in New York, in 1792, and died in Cayuga county, in 1856. They reared the following children: Warren, Hiram and Julia (Crowfoot), deceased; Mandania (Olmstead), of Patriot, Indiana; John, Jane (Ford) and David, deceased; Cordelia (Knapp), of Syracuse, New York; and Harmon, whose name appears at the opening of this sketch.

Harmon Francisco moved to Jefferson county, Indiana, at the age of sixteen years, and engaged in the clock and jewelry business. In 1859, he bought a farm in Monroe county, Indiana, and lived on it until 1883. During sixteen years of that time he was in the lightning-rod business. In 1883, he moved with his family to Labette county, Kansas, and settled in the southwest quarter of section 22, where he carried on farming and stock raising until his death, which occurred in 1893. In politics, Mr. Francisco was a lifelong Democrat, and took an active interest in that party's success.

Mr. Francisco married Mary Smith, who was born in 1843, in Montgomery county, Indiana. She is a daughter of Anderson Smith, who was born in Rockbridge county, Virginia, in 1815. When the Civil war broke out, Mr. Smith was living in Monroe county, Indiana, and there enlisted in Company G, 38th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf. He was attached to the Army of the Tennessee, and died while attending the sick at Nashville, Tennessee. His wife, Rosanna May Smith, was born in Virginia, in 1816, and moved with her parents to Monroe county, Indiana, in 1832. She died in Labette county, Kansas, in 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Smith reared three children: Mary, wife of the sub-



ject of this sketch; and Alexander and Edgar, deceased. In politics, Mr. Smith was a Republican. He was an active member of the Christian church all his life.

Mrs. Francisco is living on the old homestead in Labette county. She has a wide circle of friends in the community, where she is universally loved and admired.

---

**J**OHN S. RUDE, a prominent farmer residing in section 26, Liberty township, Labette county, Kansas, has for many years been one of the leading agriculturists of the county. He is a man of strict integrity, sound principles, and upright character, and is greatly esteemed by his fellow townsmen. Mr. Rude was born in Franklin county, Indiana, in 1829, and is a son of William and Sarah (Steward) Rude.

William Rude, the father of John S., was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, in 1804, and died in Paris, Illinois, in 1883. He married Sarah Steward, who was born in 1806, in New York, and died in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1882. They reared the following offspring: Elmira (Martin), of Indianapolis; John S., the subject of this sketch; James A., of Labette county; Laura (Zink), of Marion county, Indiana; Mary (Haugh), of Paris, Illinois; Gresham, William and Louisa, deceased; Emily (Barker), of Marion county, Indiana, and Margaret, deceased.

John S. Rude moved to Marion county, Indiana, in 1841, and worked in the lumbering business until 1863, when he enlisted in Company B, 29th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served in the army for two years. He was mustered out in 1865, at Chattanooga, Tennessee. He then returned to Marion county, Indiana. Mr.

Rude had previously learned the blacksmith trade, but while in Marion county he operated a sawmill, from 1850 to 1862. He moved to Labette county in 1871, and settled on the farm where he now lives, in section 26. He has a large, attractive farm, and is considered one of the most prosperous farmers in the county. By hard work, thrift, and good management, alone, has he reached the goal of success.

Mr. Rude was united in marriage with Elizabeth Roberts, who was born in Kentucky, in 1843. She is a daughter of Thomas Roberts, who was born in Kentucky, in 1810, and died in Marion county, Indiana, in 1860. His children were: Richard, deceased; Dudley; John, deceased; and Ellen (McClain), of Iola, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Rude are the parents of two children, namely: Charles, of Osborn, Missouri, whose children are,—Willard, Oran, and Ethel; and Leonard, of Labette county, who has two children, named Hallie, and Leonard, Jr.

Mr. Rude has served seven years as treasurer of Liberty township, and has been a school director for twelve years. He is an active member of the Christian church. In political affairs, Mr. Rude votes with the Populists.

---

**C**HARLES B. FESSENDEN, JR., a prominent and highly respected citizen of Parsons, Kansas, where he owns some fine real estate, was for many years agent for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, and has been a resident of Labette county since 1871. He is a son of Charles B. Fessenden, Sr.

Charles B. Fessenden, Sr., was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in July, 1810, and lived







MRS. LOVISA J. FRESHOUR.  
WILLIAM SCOTT.

HOWARD SCOTT.  
MRS. MARIAN L. SCOTT.

to the advanced age of four-score years and nine. He reared four children, of whom the subject hereof is the eldest. The others were: Grace, who is deceased; Annie (Buckman), of New York City, who has one son, William, a civil engineer in New Mexico; and Susan, who lives with her mother.

Charles B. Fessenden, Jr., was born in Massachusetts, December 2, 1840. He was a pupil in the schools of Boston, and had exceptional advantages open to him. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war, he responded to his country's appeal, enlisted, in 1861, in Company D, 43d Reg., Mass. Vol. Inf., and served until the successful termination of the war. After serving one year as sergeant major, he received a commission as captain in the 9th Reg., U. S. Colored Troops, and as such was honorably discharged.

Returning to Boston, he remained in that vicinity until 1868, when he came west to seek a new and more favorable location. In 1868, he accepted a position as agent for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, which was then in its infancy. In 1875, he was promoted to be special commercial agent on the same road, which was at that time a very lucrative position. While filling that position, he traveled over various divisions of the system,—principally between Junction City and Parsons,—and from 1884 to 1898 he served as conductor. He made his headquarters in Parsons, which has been his home for many years. In 1898 he severed his connection with the road, and has since been practically retired. He was justly considered one of the best men who ever traveled in the interest of that company.

Mr. Fessenden was united in marriage with Hattie Everett, a daughter of Aaron Everett, of Boston, Massachusetts. She was born No-

vember 13, 1843, and is one of six children: Emmelius; Sarah E.; Frank, deceased; Hattie; Abbie and Charles. The last named was killed in action in the Wilderness, during the Civil war, while the others are all married and scattered. Two children were born to bless the home of Mr. Fessenden, namely: Harry, superintendent of the Otis Elevator Machine Shops, in San Francisco, California; and Susan, who is successfully engaged in teaching school in Parsons.

Politically, Mr. Fessenden has been a Republican since the organization of the party. He ranks today among the most prominent citizens of his adopted home, and has been the architect of his own fortune. Upon his arrival in Labette county, he was a poor man, with nothing to depend upon but his own exertions. He owns a fine residence at No. 2207 Johnson avenue, besides which he rents another pretty place in the city. He is now spending his declining years in enjoying the fruits of his toil and forethought.



WILLIAM SCOTT, a farmer living in section 24, township 31, range 18, east, in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Williams county, Ohio, and was born in 1845. He is a son of Christopher and Naomi (Franks) Scott.

Christopher Scott was born in Wayne county, Ohio, April 22, 1822, and died at the home of his son William, January 17, 1901. After his marriage, Mr. Scott was presented with 80 acres of land by his father-in-law. This was in 1841, when he located in Ohio. He traded a team of horses for 40 acres more, and began farming. He married Naomi

Franks, who was born October 17, 1823, in Ohio, but whose ancestors were natives of Pennsylvania. She died in Ohio, August 19, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Scott reared the following children, namely: William; Peter; Martha J.; Frank; Sarah; M. D.; Julia; Nancy; and Lucetta. Peter died in Labette county, January 16, 1897. Martha J. (Laubsher) lives in Goshen, Indiana. Frank is a farmer in Michigan. Sarah is the wife of C. F. Newman, who lives in Sherwood, Ohio. M. D. is with his brother William in Labette county, where he began to study for the Gospel ministry; he completed his education at Wesleyan College, in Ohio, and has been preaching in Labette county since 1885. Julia (Saul) is the wife of a farmer living in Melbern, Ohio. Nancy (Berlin) lives near the old homestead in Ohio. Lucetta (Buda) lives on a portion of the old home place.

William Scott attended the common schools of his native county, and remained at home until July 12, 1862. He then enlisted from Williams county, Ohio, in Company C, 111th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf. He served first as a private and later as a noncommissioned officer, in a part of the Second Brigade, Second Division, 23d Army Corps. He was in General Sherman's army, and later was sent back with General Thomas to fight General Hood. Mr. Scott was mustered out of the United States service, at Salisbury, North Carolina, and out of the state service at Cleveland, Ohio, July 16, 1865. At one time a bullet grazed his cheek, but he was not seriously wounded; being a man of iron constitution, he suffered no ill effects from the hardships of the war.

After his return from the army, Mr. Scott served a three years' apprenticeship in the plastering trade, and followed that occupation for

a period of eighteen years. In the fall of 1873 he went to Little Rock, Arkansas, to look over the surrounding country, but being dissatisfied with the system of taxation, he started for Junction City, Kansas. On his way he stopped at Parsons, where he met a land agent, who persuaded him to inspect the land in that vicinity. He decided to buy his present farm, and, after settling the matter, returned to his home in Ohio. Six months later he came back to Kansas with his family. G. W. Everhart, who was the owner of the north half of section 24, township 31, range 18, deeded Mr. Scott the northeast quarter of the section, and Mr. Scott later secured the northwest quarter. Mr. Everhart had broken about 150 acres of the half section and had set out some hedge and built a small house. All of the present fine improvements have been made by Mr. Scott, and he now has one of the best farms in the county. He carries on general farming, preferring Red Polled Angus cattle and Poland-China hogs. He is one of the best farmers in the state, and is a self made man.

Mr. Scott was married to Marian L. Sanford, who was born in Ohio, in 1846. They have two children living: Howard and Lovisa J. Howard lives in the northwest quarter of section 24; he married Mary Ada Craft, and they have three sons and one daughter. Lovisa J. (Freshour) lives southeast of Parsons, and has one daughter. Mr. Scott was formerly a Republican, in politics, but now votes for the best man, irrespective of party views and affiliations. He has served as clerk of Osage township. He became a Master Mason in a lodge in Ohio, and is now a member of the Parsons Lodge, No. 117, A. F. & A. M. He attends the Baptist church, of which both he

and his wife are members. A picture of Mr. and Mrs. Scott and their son and daughter accompanies this sketch.



H. EAKINS has been an influential farmer of Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, for a number of years, and is at present living in section 6, township 33, range 18. He was born in Adams county, Ohio, January 4, 1838. He is a son of John and Mary (Cree) Eakins.

John Eakins was a native of Adams county, Ohio, where he died, in 1845, at the early age of thirty-three years. His wife was also a native of that county, and her death took place in 1841. They had but two children,—W. H., the subject of this sketch; and Wesley, who died when an infant.

W. H. Eakins was left alone in the world when his mother died. An uncle took him to raise, and he lived with him until he reached the age of fourteen years. Since that time, he has earned his own way, and has been a self made man in the truest sense of the word. He was engaged in the mercantile business in Manchester, Ohio, for a number of months, and since that time his life-work has been the tilling of the soil. He was a member of the state militia, and took part in much of the border troubles. Toward the end of the war, he went to St. Louis, where he enlisted in the Army of the West, and served for one year. He returned to Ohio, in 1865, where he purchased a small farm in Highland county. He removed to Neosho county, Kansas, in 1878, coming by rail to Thayer, Kansas. He brought with him his wife and family, and had \$100 in his possession. Not being greatly pleased

with the prospects which Neosho county afforded, he located in Labette county, in 1879, and soon after bought his present home farm, which was settled by Manly J. Kinney. A portion of this land was ceded by the Osage Indians. A stone wall had been started preparatory to building a house. This had fallen down, and there was no stable of any kind. Mr. Eakins built on the original site, which is one of the finest in the county. The house was erected on a mound, which affords splendid view of the surrounding country for miles around. But one-fourth of an acre of land had been broken, and no trees had been set out. Mr. Eakins now has a fine orchard and a number of large shade trees. His house is of stone and the outbuildings are large and comfortable. His early crops were flax and millet; he also raised some sorghum, which quickly subdued the sod. Mr. Eakins first secured 80 acres of land in the southwest quarter, and in 1898 bought another 80 acres in the southeast quarter. He bought his first full blooded Hereford ten years ago, and his thoroughbreds now number 75. He recently bought a calf for \$50. He has 50 or 60 head of the best grade of Poland-China hogs. Corn, wheat and oats are his staple crops. Mr. Eakins has a drilled well, 66 feet deep, on the farm, and is reasonably sure that gas could easily be obtained. The farm is well supplied with water from a spring and wells. Mr. Eakins is a very successful man, and his business principles are sound and honest.

Mr. Eakins was married in Ohio to Matilda Collins. She was born in that state sixty-two years ago. Eight children were the result of this union, namely: James Edward, deceased; Anna B. (Wheatley), who lives three miles southeast of Mound Valley; Emma (Kyle), who lives one mile north of her fa-

ther; Charles; Johnson J.; Rosa; Maggie; and Ida.

In politics, Mr. Eakins is a strong Republican, and although he has not aspired to office he takes an active interest in political affairs. He was formerly a member of the A. O. U. W. He assisted in the erection of the Methodist church and parsonage, at Mound Valley. He well remembers the first sermon he heard in Labette county. It was preached by Rev. Mr. Slinker, at a little schoolhouse in the southeast part of Mound Valley township, and the text was: "Jonah was glad of the gourd." Mr. Eakins is a prominent worker in this church.

**D**AVID M. MILLER, a well known farmer living in section 15, township 34, range 20, in Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Sandusky county, Ohio, and was born in September, 1846. He is a son of Joseph and Barbara (Overmire) Miller.

Joseph Miller was born in Pennsylvania, and when a young man removed to Perry county, Ohio. He afterward lived in Indiana, where his death occurred. His wife was born in Perry county, Ohio, and she also died in Indiana. Twelve children were the result of this union, eight of whom arrived at maturity, and five of whom are now living. Those living are: Elijah, who is a farmer, Emeline (Zink), Mary E. (Overmire) and Angeline (Briney), all of Indiana; and David M., the subject of this sketch.

David M. Miller removed with his parents, in the spring of 1850, to Indiana, where they located in Fulton county. He attended the common schools of that county, and remained there until 1880. He then located in Labette

county, where he rented a farm in Hackberry township, one mile east of his present home. In August, 1880, Mr. Miller bought his farm in section 15, which contains 120 acres, and was known as the De Cow farm. He also bought 80 acres of the northeast quarter, and 40 acres in the section lying north of section 15. He now owns 280 acres, altogether. In 1895 Mr. Miller erected his present eight-room dwelling, and now uses the old house as a granary. He has five acres of orchard, and raises stock and grain,—his stock being of the finest grade. Hackberry and Lake creeks flow through his land, thus bountifully supplying the farm with water. Mr. Miller is a conscientious worker, and takes great pride in the general appearance of his home, which bespeaks its owner's thrift and energy.

While a resident of Indiana, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Catherine Buhler, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, in 1850. She is a daughter of Frederick and Christina Buhler, of Fulton county, Indiana. Mrs. Miller was reared in that state. She is a member of the United Brethren church. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Miller: Mary; Emma; Sarah Clarinda; Marion M.; Lewis Albert; Joseph F.; Milo; Bert; Edna; and Myrtle. Mary is the wife of Henry Sharp, who is in the creamery business at Matfield, Kansas, and has two children. Emma married Thomas Kirby, who lives three miles east of her parents, and has one daughter. Sarah Clarinda died at the age of three years. Marion M. is married to Ila Dobbins, has one daughter, and is living one mile east of his parents. Lewis Albert, a farmer of Fairview township, is married to Lillie Dobbins, and has one son. Joseph F. is married to Bertha Brock. Milo is a farmer, but lives at home. Bert, Edna and Myrtle are at home.



Mr. Miller was a Democrat, in politics, but is now a member of the Populist party. He has served as a justice of the peace, and as trustee of the township; he was a member of the school board of District No. 7, for a number of years, but resigned a short time ago. Fraternally, Mr. Miller is a member of the I. O. O. F., of Bartlett. He and his wife are members of the Sons and Daughters of Justice, and each carries a \$2,000 life insurance policy. Mr. Miller has always been an active and progressive citizen, and is highly respected by his townsmen.



J. LATTA, D. D. S., one of the foremost dentists of Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas, was born near Columbia, Tennessee, in 1847, and is a son of Calvin and Arminta (Mitchell) Latta.

Calvin Latta was born in North Carolina in 1812, and is a carpenter and bridge builder by trade. He lived in North Carolina until he was twelve years old. In 1852 Mr. Latta removed to Jefferson county, Illinois, where he bought a farm. He was engaged in general farming,—in which he was assisted by his sons,—and also followed his trade. His wife died in that county, aged fifty-seven years. Mr. Latta still lives there. Their children were: Mary E. (Spawr) (Johnson), who has been twice widowed; John M.; W. J.; C. R. J. C., of Kentucky; Martha J. (Johnson), who lives in Southern Illinois; Jerome B. P., of Hunt county, Texas; Harriet C. (Hopgood), of Kentucky; Tennessee K., deceased; Gertrude (Benson), deceased; and Mrs. E. B. Whitlow, who lives in Southern Illinois.

Dr. W. J. Latta attended the common schools in his vicinity and assisted on his fa-

ther's farm until he reached the age of twenty-one years. Always ambitious to secure a good education, he quit business and went to Eureka, Illinois, and then to college at Morganfield, Kentucky. He then learned his father's trade, but finding the duties too arduous for his constitution, in October, 1868, he began the study of dentistry at Ashley, Illinois, with a brother-in-law. At that time there were but two dental colleges in the United States, and students pursued their courses mainly with preceptors. Dr. Latta studied and practiced with his preceptor, and was located at different places in Southern Illinois for a period of eight years. In 1876 he went to Texas, and practiced in Dallas county for four years. He then located in Chetopa, June 19, 1880. He opened his office in August of that year, and since that time has attended to a large and lucrative practice. Dr. Latta has a thorough knowledge of dentistry, and, inheriting a mechanical nature from his father, the choice of his profession was a wise one. He is a painstaking worker, conscientious and faithful, and has the confidence and respect of all who come in contact with him.

Dr. Latta was married, in Labette county, to Miss S. E. Riter, who was born in Central Illinois. She came to Cherokee, Kansas, at the age of twelve years, and before her marriage taught vocal and instrumental music. She studied with Mrs. Handley, a very successful teacher in St. Louis. Mrs. Latta now has a class in music in Chetopa. She is highly accomplished, and moves in the best social circles of Chetopa. Dr. and Mrs. Latta had one child which died in infancy.

Dr. Latta was a Democrat early in life, but changed to the Greenback ticket in Texas, and is now a strong Prohibition Populist. He served as police judge two years in Chetopa. He has always been an active worker in the

Christian church, of which Rev. W. F. Guy is the present pastor. Dr. Latta owns his own home in Chetopa. He has been very successful and is well and widely known.



WILLIAM A. WINTERS, a prominent and influential farmer of Labette county, Kansas, has been a resident of this county since 1897, and owns 400 acres of land in Hackberry township, in sections 5 and 8, township 34, range 20. He was born in Bureau county, Illinois, in 1853, and is a son of James and Catherine A. (Sheller) Winters.

James Winters was born in Pennsylvania, and after his marriage went west to Burlington, Iowa,—plying his trade as a carpenter. He was robbed by his partner of all his money, trunk and effects, and so he located in Illinois and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. His father was a native of Germany, and his mother was of Scotch-Irish stock. He married Catherine A. Sheller, and of the 12 children born to them they reared nine, as follows: Anna M.; William A.; Mary E.; Hannah C., deceased; Emma J.; Sarah B.; Alice M.; John R.; and A. Christian. William A. and Alice M. (Hawley) reside in Labette county. James Winters came west to Kansas previous to the arrival of William A. and acquired property in Ross township, Cherokee county, but later returned to Illinois, where he died in June, 1898.

William A. Winters moved to Cherokee county, Kansas, in 1875, whither his father had preceded him some years, and purchased land, which the former bought from him in 1883. There he resided until he located in Labette county, March 6, 1897, purchasing 400 acres

of fine land in sections 5 and 8, township 34, range 20. He set out an orchard that year, and also ornamental trees, and in 1900 erected his present fine home of nine rooms, which is one of the most attractive residences in the southern part of the county. He expects to build a large barn in the near future. He is a very progressive man and is well deserving of success.

Mr. Winters was united in marriage, in Cherokee county, with Mary E. Hawkins, a daughter of G. W. D. Hawkins. Mr. Hawkins was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1826, and there was reared. He moved west to the vicinity of Aurora, Kane county, Illinois, in 1848. He was married there, and also purchased a farm, on which he lived until 1861. He was then located in Nebraska until 1866, when he took a claim east of Columbus, in Cherokee county, Kansas. There he resided for a period of twelve years, and then moved to Ross township, where William A. Winters was located. In 1886, he removed to Pratt county, Kansas, where he farmed until 1891. He went to Washington, in 1891. In 1898 Mrs. Hawkins died, and he went to Oregon; thence, August 29, 1899, he returned to Kansas, and has since made his home with the subject hereof. He married Adelaide R. Jay, and unto them were born seven children, as follows: Arthur O.; Minnie A.; Mary E.; Martha A.; Hattie V.; Ralph R.; and Allie J.

Mr. and Mrs. Winters have one son, J. Ross, who is twenty-one years of age, and is living at home. In politics, William A. Winters belongs to the Peoples party, while Mr. Hawkins is a Republican. The former has filled many of the township offices. Fraternally, he and his son are members of the A. O. U. W., of Bartlett. In religious views, Mr. Winters is liberal.



CAPTAIN W. H. WESTON. This gentleman, who was an early settler of Montgomery county, Kansas, has since 1883 occupied a leading place in the agricultural circles of Labette county. He resides in section 26, township 32, range 17, in Mound Valley township. He was born near Salem, Washington county, Indiana, in 1837. His parents died and left three children: W. H.; Almeda, who died young; and Joseph M., who was taken prisoner at Chickamauga, and died in Libby Prison, in 1864.

W. H. Weston was bound out to a Mr. Albertson, with whom he remained until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He purchased time for the last few months. He learned the trade of a shoemaker while with Mr. Albertson, and has followed this trade more or less ever since. He had a shoemaker's shop in Cherryvale, Kansas, for a number of years. August 9, 1861, Mr. Weston enlisted as a private soldier in Company G, 18th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and was in the 13th Army Corps, under Gen. John A. McClernand, of Illinois, and later under General Banks, and Gen. E. O. C. Ord. He was discharged in February, 1862, and reenlisted in Company B, 16th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., July 21, 1862. The latter part of his service was under Maj.-Gen. E. R. S. Canby, in the Army of the Gulf. Mr. Weston was commissioned first lieutenant, in May, 1864, served as acting captain, and was commissioned captain in May, 1865. Though he took part in many battles, he was never seriously wounded. In August, 1862, on a Saturday, he was taken prisoner at Richmond, Kentucky, and the following Tuesday he was paroled. He was under fire forty-eight days, in the campaign of Vicksburg, was in the famous Red River expedition, under General Banks, as a mounted infantryman, and went seven days

and nights without sleep. His regiment lost heavily, and the men remaining were sent to fight guerrillas in Louisiana. In April, 1865, they had their last engagement with the guerrillas, and captured many. Mr. Weston was mustered out as captain, July 21, 1865.

After the war, Capt. Weston farmed in Indiana until he located in Kansas, in 1872. He took a claim in Montgomery county, Kansas, one and a half miles from Cherryvale. He remained there until the fall of 1883, when he bought his present home farm of 160 acres, which is described as the north half of the northeast quarter, the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter; and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter, of section 26, township 32, range 17. This was taken as a claim by an early settler,—Mr. McMichael,—who built on the place a log house, which is now used as a hay-barn. Capt. Weston built a comfortable home in 1883. There is a fine cave, 8 by 10 feet in size, near the house, and a 150-barrel cistern. Big Hill Creek runs through the farm, and there is a goodly amount of timber. Capt. Weston devotes three acres of the land to various kinds of fruit. He carries on general farming,—raising stock and grain. He is a man who succeeds in anything he undertakes, and his farming career has been as successful as his career as a soldier.

Capt. Weston was married in 1863 to Louisa S. Beck. She died in Cherryvale, in 1888, leaving one child, William Robert. William Robert Weston is a general mechanic living at Cherryvale. He is married and has several children,—having had four twins. Captain Weston married, in 1889, Mrs. Mary Cross (nee Lasure). She lived in Ohio a number of years, and located at Abilene, Kansas, in 1872. She has three children, namely. Emma (Robison), of Cherryvale; Rosa (Berentz), of

Chautauqua county, Kansas; and Della (Johnson), who lives on Capt. Weston's farm.

Capt. Weston was raised a member of the Democratic party, but since the Civil war he has voted the straight Republican ticket. The citizens of the township have shown their confidence in him by electing him to the offices of clerk, treasurer, trustee of the township, and also to that of justice of the peace. He has been treasurer of the school board in District No. 19 for the past seven years. Captain Weston has many agreeable qualities, and is a man of firm principles. He has numerous warm friends in Labette county.

**J**OHAN A. JAMISON, a highly respected agriculturist of Labette county, Kansas, living in Mound Valley township, in the northwest quarter of section 23, township 32, range 18, was born in Kentucky, in 1845, in the town of Clay Village, Shelby county. He is a son of Allen and Jane (Cline) Jamison.

Allen Jamison is now eighty-four years old. In 1850 he moved to Missouri, where he worked at his trade, that of a blacksmith, while his sons took care of the farm. Mr. Jamison was wedded to Jane Cline, who was a native of Kentucky, and whose death occurred in Missouri, in 1900, at the age of seventy-four years. They reared eight children, namely: E. T., who lives in the northeast corner of Mound Valley township; John A., the subject of this sketch; Samuel, who is a farmer in Washington; Mary E. (Holmes), who lives in Missouri; J. T., who is engaged in mercantile business in that state; Charles and George, both residents of Missouri; and Theodosia, who died in Missouri.

John A. Jamison, whose name heads this sketch, attended the common schools of Missouri. He and his brother, E. T., served in the state home guard for three years, spending one and one-half years in camp. Mr. Jamison followed farming in Missouri until his removal to Labette county, Kansas. In the fall of 1869, Mr. Jamison took a claim in section 12, township 32, range 18, in Osage township. He returned to St. Joseph, Missouri, where he spent the winter of 1870, and since that time has permanently resided in Labette county. He located on his present farm in Mound Valley township, in 1891, and has expended over \$1,500 in improvements on the place. When he bought it, it was in the hands of a mortgage company, and had been settled by Frank Harper. The soil is rich and compact, being underlaid by strata of water-bearing gravel. A creek and springs supply water in the corral, near the barn, and there are also cisterns and wells on the place. Mr. Jamison has two acres of orchard, and about 100 acres of wheat. He raises grain and stock, mainly. He breeds Poland-China hogs, and white-faced cattle, and also raises horses for general use. Mr. Jamison is a practical business man, and has a thorough knowledge of farming matters. He takes a great interest in the affairs of the county, and the township, and is now serving as road master of the township.

Mr. Jamison married Eliza Tallman, who was born in Ohio in 1857. They have been blessed with five children, namely: Ella, who is at home; T. W., who lives in Oklahoma, and is engaged with the Carbon Light Company, of Wichita, Kansas; George L., who is employed in the steel works at Pueblo, Colorado; Arthur, who is home; and Jane, who died at the age of two years.

Mr. Jamison is a Republican in politics.





JAMES MCKENNAN.



He has served as trustee of his township. He attends the Methodist church at Hopewell, in Labette township. Mr. Jamison is a loyal and upright citizen, and his friends in Labette county are many.

**J**AMES McKENNAN, a prosperous farmer of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, lives in section 24, township 34, range 17. He was born in Herkimer county, New York, April 30, 1837, and is a son of Ezekiel and Sophia (Warner) McKennan.

Ezekiel McKennan was of Scotch-Irish descent. He came to America when eighteen years of age, and located in New York State, where he engaged in farming. He became quite an extensive land owner, and at the time of his death left considerable valuable real estate. In religious belief he was at first a Presbyterian and later a Congregationalist. He and his wife became parents of 11 children, as follows: Rachel; Hugh; Oliver; Sophia; Sarah; James; George; Jennie; Mary; and two who died in infancy. Mr. McKennan remained in his native state until November 15, 1869, when he decided to go west. After making a visit to friends in Michigan and Iowa, he started for Kansas. Arriving at Kansas City, he purchased a mule-team and proceeded to Montgomery county, Kansas, whence he went to Parker, Linn county, March 2, 1870. There he remained a short time when he moved to Labette county, and purchased his present farm June 8, 1872. Upon this but few improvements had been made. A claim house had been built, and about 20 acres of land had been broken. Mr. McKennan has made many improvements, and

now has one of the finest farms in the township. About 50 acres are under a high state of cultivation, and the remainder is used for grazing purposes. In 1882 he built a cottage of seven rooms, which adds greatly to the appearance of the property.

Mr. McKennan was united in matrimony, March 24, 1873, with Mae Kempton, who was born in Orleans county, New York, February 12, 1854, and is a daughter of Chauncy and Marion D. (Billings) Kempton. They had two children: Edith, born in July, 1875, who died at the age of four months, and Bret, now a lad of sixteen years. Politically, Mr. McKennan is a stanch Republican, but does not aspire to office. Mrs. McKennan is a member of the Congregational church. A portrait of Mr. McKennan is shown on a foregoing page.

**I**SAAC D. ELLISON, a highly respected farmer living in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, in section 21, township 32, range 18, was born in Stark county, Ohio, January 24, 1833, in the village of Marlboro, and is a son of Samuel and Anna (Jones) Ellison, who were of Scotch-Irish descent.

Samuel Ellison was a native of Virginia, and his death occurred in Ohio, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife was a native of Georgia, and died, in Ohio, at the age of sixty-five years. They had nine children, namely: Elizabeth (Allmon), who died in 1885, aged eighty-two years; Anna (Pennock), whose death took place in 1898, at the age of eighty-two years; John, who died in 1860, in Alliance, Stark county, Ohio, aged fifty years; William, deceased at the age of fifty years, in Janesville, Wisconsin; Samuel, aged eighty-seven years,

who lives at Greenleaf, Kansas; Dempsey, aged eighty-one years, of Yukon, Oklahoma; Margaret (Fulton), who died in Dayton, Ohio, aged sixty years; Deborah (Fulton), who died in 1889, aged sixty years; and Isaac D., the subject of this sketch.

Isaac D. Ellison was reared in the town of Marlboro, Ohio, where he remained until his marriage, in 1854. He married Martha Orr, who died in 1864, leaving five children, three of whom died in childhood. The others were: Flora (Hoover), of Cleveland, Ohio; and Mrs. Cora Brown, who died in Denver, Colorado, in the fall of 1900, leaving five children. Mr. Ellison and his wife were engaged in the hotel business at Alliance, Ohio, for a period of three years. He was, next, in the railroad business for two years, after which he removed, with his family, to Chicago, in the fall of 1865. There he conducted the hotel known as the Central House, at Nos. 82 and 84 East Randolph street. This was a five-story building, and was destroyed by fire in 1871. In 1870 Mr. Ellison sold this hotel, and concluded to try his fortune in the West. He bought a stock of fine whiskies, brandies, and other liquors, and went to Utah, intent upon making his fortune. In this he was greatly disappointed. He settled at Promontory Point, Utah, where the golden spike of the Union Pacific Railroad was driven. Mr. Ellison was obliged to sell his stock at a great loss, as he found competition was too great. He then went to Texas, where he bought a herd of cattle, which he brought to Labette county, thinking he would take a claim in Mound Valley, where he would have abundant range for the cattle to graze in the vicinity. But in this he was also disappointed, as the country very soon became settled. Thus he was obliged to begin life over, as a poor man, comparatively, but, nothing daunted, he set out


with renewed energy, and is now one of the most prosperous and successful farmers in his section of Labette county.

Mr. Ellison bought the northwest quarter of section 21, township 32, range 18, in the spring of 1871, for the small amount of \$400. Then, after six years of litigation with the railroad company, he finally acquired title to the farm. He first broke eight acres of the land, and planted sod-corn, and later broke all of the home quarter-section. He now has 300 trees bearing fruit, these trees having been bought from Mr. North, who kept a nursery in this part of the county, and supplied all of the orchards in the vicinity. When Mr. Ellison settled on this land, there was only a shanty, 10 by 12 feet in size. This he soon replaced by a modern house, which sits on a mound, some distance back from the road, and thus affords a splendid view. He also bought 80 acres of land on the west side of the road, and the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 16, township 32, range 18, making a farm of 280 acres. This he deeded to his sons. Mr. Ellison carries on general farming. He raises corn, hogs and cattle, and last year sold \$1,800 worth in one season. He prefers thoroughbred Poland-China hogs, and has several of them. Mr. Ellison is a self made man, and deserves great credit for the manner in which he confronted adversity and struggled on until success was again his.

Mr. Ellison formed a second marital union, in Illinois, by wedding Sarah E. Howe, who was born in Akron, Ohio. She is now fifty-eight years old. Six children have been the result of this marriage, whose names are as follows: John, who married Pearl Stevens, and who lives near his father; Charles, who is at home; Lorena (Larrabee), who lives in Blackwell, Oklahoma, and has one daughter,

Bessie; Hattie (Norton), who lives on a farm in Osage township, and has one son, Harry; Maude, who is at home; and Walter, aged seventeen years, who is also at home. Mr. Ellison was formerly a member of the Old Settlers' League, and relates many interesting experiences of the happenings incident to the settling of this county.

Mr. Ellison has always voted the straight Republican ticket. Fraternally, he is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge, of Cherryvale, although he joined this organization in Ohio. His family attends the Methodist church. They are well and favorably known in the county, and Mr. Ellison has the respect and esteem of all his fellow citizens.

ILLIAM ALLMON, a prosperous and well known farmer living in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Stark county, Ohio, and was born March 8, 1845, and is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Ellison) Allmon.

Isaac Allmon was a native of Ohio, and was descended from an old Pennsylvania family. He followed the trades of carpenter and machinist, and died at the age of sixty-five years, in 1872. Elizabeth Ellison Allmon, the mother of William, was descended from a well known Virginia family, and died in Ohio in 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Allmon reared five children, namely: Mary A. (James), of North Lewisburg, Ohio; Samuel E., of Toledo, Ohio, a canal superintendent, who, in the Civil war, was a member of Company C, 45th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., served as adjutant of the regiment, and was commissioned captain; Hiram W., who was a member of Company K, 42d Reg.,

Ohio Vol. Inf., and died in the army; Ezra J., who was also a member of that regiment, and who was accidentally shot and killed while cleaning a gun, in the fall of 1900; and William, the subject of this sketch.

William Allmon was reared and schooled in his native state, and at the age of eighteen years, in the spring of 1864, enlisted as a 100-day man in Company B, 132d Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., in the 10th Army Corps, under General Butler. He was with the Army of the Potomac, was under fire, and did guard duty on the James River and at Petersburg. He was mustered out at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio, in the fall of 1864.

When a boy, Mr. Allmon was handy with tools, and this fact led him to become a machinist and carpenter on the Bellefontaine & Indiana Railroad, which is now the "Big 4." He followed this occupation until the fall of 1872, and was then engaged in the lumber business until the fall of 1885. He had charge of the stair, machinery, scroll work, and molding departments of a large lumber and planing mill, at Bellefontaine, Ohio. When this factory burned, Mr. Allmon was a very heavy loser. In 1885 he decided to try his luck in the West, and accordingly set out for Kansas, and located in Mound Valley township, Labette county. He bought his present farm in section 22, township 32, range 18, from A. McGinnis, for \$4,000, paying \$2,500 down and assuming a mortgage of \$1,500. Mr. Allmon has always been a conscientious and thrifty worker, and his success has been due entirely to his own ability and industry. He has built a substantial barn, set out a new orchard, and made many other minor improvements. He cleared the farm of debt, and in addition bought 80 acres of land near Altamont, and 80 acres in Mound Valley township. He has a fine well, which,

though but 14 feet deep, never fails to give a goodly supply of water. He also has a 240-barrel cistern on the farm, and a good spring running through the northern part of it. Mr. Allmon has one of the finest farms in the county, and has just cause to be proud of his well earned success in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Allmon was wedded to Dulcie McColey, who is a native of Ohio. They have three children,—Emma (Morain), who lives on a farm in Osage township; Edwin M., who married Eva Daniels, and owns a farm near his father's; and Carrie (Tedstrom), of Mound Valley township, who also bought a farm near her father's place. Mr. Allmon is a member of the Republican party. Fraternally, he belongs to the I. O. O. F., which order he joined in Ohio. His wife is a member of the Rebekahs. Mr. Allmon was raised a Quaker, and his wife is a member of the Christian church.

**C**HARLES WATSON. This gentleman is one of the successful farmers of Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas. He is a native of Pike county, Illinois, and was born July 24, 1850. He is a son of J. C. and Serena Watson.

J. C. Watson moved to Montgomery county, Illinois, in 1852, and lived there until 1867, when he located in Kansas. He was a prominent farmer and stock raiser, and his death occurred in Labette county. He and his wife reared six boys and three girls. Three children are now living in Labette county, two, in California, and one, in Colorado.

Charles Watson, the subject of this sketch, was reared and schooled in his native county. In June, 1867, he moved to Labette county, and took a claim in Richland township,—the

southwest quarter of section 29, township 34, range 21. In 1872 he removed to Hackberry township, where he bought 80 acres of land in section 31, township 34, range 20. There he lived for twenty years. He made extensive improvements on the place and then sold it and moved to Richland township, where he lived for four years. In 1896 Mr. Watson bought his present home farm in Mound Valley township, the southeast quarter of section 23, township 32, range 18,—from the Deming Investment Company, of Oswego. Many of the improvements were made on the farm when Mr. Watson bought it, but he has set out a young orchard. Mr. Watson has a brother in Richland township, whose name is D. U. Watson. Charles Watson is a thrifty and steady worker and has been very successful since coming to Kansas.

In January, 1874, Mr. Watson married Angeline Powers, who was born in Adair county, Missouri, in 1854. She is a daughter of Moses and Lucy A. (Cayon) Powers. Mr. Powers died in 1898, and his wife in 1895. When Mrs. Watson was six years old her parents moved to Cooke county, Texas, and in 1867 they came to Labette county, and settled near Labette Creek, in Richland township. They reared seven children, namely: Elizabeth; Sarah (Kinney) and George, of Coffeyville, Kansas; Mrs. Keith, who lives in Texas; Angeline, the wife of Mr. Watson; and John and William, who live in Texas.

The marriage of Mr. Watson and his wife has been blessed with eight children, namely: John A., who is a machinist in Colorado; Georgie May, the wife of Ed Mollenhour, of Richland township; Nellie, who is at home; William, deceased; Frank, who is home; Olive Minnie, deceased; and Leslie Estelle and Bessie, who are at home. Mr. Watson has always





R. D. LEAVITT.



been a member of the Republican party. Religiously, he is a Presbyterian, although he was raised a Methodist.

**R** D. LEAVITT, a farmer living in section 16, township 31, range 18, in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, whose portrait is herewith shown, was born in Pennsylvania, and is a son of Loirett and Elizabeth (Harned) Leavitt.

Loirett Leavitt was born in Vermont, in 1799, and lived in New York, and later in Pennsylvania. His wife was born in 1801. They were the parents of two children, namely: Lydia, who lives in Pennsylvania; and R. D., the subject of this sketch. Both of Mr. Leavitt's parents had been previously married, and each had reared children. By a former marriage, his father reared: Leander, Harmon and Mary; and his mother bore her first husband, whose name was Syers, the following children: Alexander, Sarah and Margaret. Mary Leavitt lives in Wisconsin. Alexander Syers lives in Michigan. Sarah, Margaret, Leander and Harmon are deceased.

R. D. Leavitt attended the common and select schools of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, until he reached the age of sixteen years. In 1863 he enlisted in Company H, 55th Reg., state militia,—serving but three months. After leaving the army, he did various kinds of work, and finally decided to engage in farming. He accordingly purchased land until he had secured 102 acres. He lived in Pennsylvania a number of years. In 1893 he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and located on the farm where he now lives. He bought the property with what money he had earned in Pennsylvania, with the exception of \$100, and since

settling in Kansas has been very successful. Although he has not lived very long in Kansas, he has made many friends, and is highly respected by all who know him.

In 1872 Mr. Leavitt was married, and his wife bore him three children, who are living in Silver Creek, New York. Their names are: Cora, whose husband has a large harness shop in Silver Creek; Viola; and Mary. Mr. Leavitt is a member of the Republican party. He is a Christian man, but at present is not a member of any church.

**J**ACOB HEINKEY, one of the most substantial and progressive farmers residing in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Stark county, Ohio, in 1837. He is a son of Jacob and Sophia (Frank) Heinkey.

Jacob Heinkey was born in Germany, and came to America in 1837. In 1841 he located in St. Joseph county, Indiana, where he lived until his son, Jacob, was about three years old. He then moved to Labette county, Kansas, where his death occurred, in 1894. His wife died in Indiana in 1873. They reared several children, four of whom died while young. When Mr. Heinkey came over from Germany there was smallpox on the vessel, and he lost two children. The three children now living are: Sophia, a widow who lives at Mishawaka, Indiana; Malchus, a successful farmer who lives near Bremen, Marshall county, Indiana; and Jacob.

Jacob Heinkey, whose name heads this sketch, was reared and schooled in Indiana, where he remained until 1880. He carried on farming while there, and in 1880 removed to Labette county, Kansas. He settled in Osage

township, where he bought, of Jarvis Martin, his first 160 acres,—the southwest quarter of section 2, township 31, range 17. Mr. Martin had lived on the claim eight years, and had acquired the title. Mr. Heinkey had but a shanty for a dwelling, and he at once began to make improvements on the place. He had considerable capital, and several head of horses, on locating in Labette county. In 1895 he built a fine barn, 40 by 60 feet in size, which was struck by lightning, and burned, four years later. At that time he was planning a new house, and had a large quantity of dimension stuff and finishing lumber stored in the barn. This also was destroyed. Nothing daunted, Mr. Heinkey at once had the old house torn to pieces, and while the family made themselves as comfortable as possible in a tent, he began the building of a two-story brick house, which was completed in 1900. The main part is 24 by 26 feet, in dimensions, and the addition is 18 by 28 feet. In 1901 he built a summer kitchen, 12 by 16 feet in size, of solid brick. He then built the present ample barn, measuring 40 by 68 feet, which is 31 feet to the gable. He also has a fine cave near the house. He set out an orchard, which is in vigorous condition. Corn and hay are the staple crops, although he carries on general farming and stock raising. He now owns about half of a section, 124 acres of which is near Brooks, Wilson county, Kansas. The railroad runs through Mr. Heinkey's farm, which is one of the finest in the county.

Mr. Heinkey was united in marriage with Mary Ann Smith, who was born in St. Joseph county, Indiana, in 1843. Nine children were born to them, three of whom reached maturity, namely: Caroline (Coleman), who lives with her father, and has two children,—Esther, and John Edward; Henry, a successful grain buyer

and business man, who is postmaster at Morehead; and Lydia, who died of consumption, at the age of nineteen years. Politically, Mr. Heinkey is a strong Republican, and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. He is a member of the Evangelical Association,—the church being located in Montgomery county, on the same circuit as Dennis.

Mr. Heinkey is widely known in Labette county, where he takes an active interest in all measures which tend to benefit the county.



DAVID H. MARTIN, a successful merchant living in Edna, Labette county, Kansas, came to this county in October, 1873. He was born at Saint Clairsville, Belmont county, Ohio, in 1866, and is a son of F. G. and Abigail (Harris) Martin.

F. G. Martin was born in Pennsylvania, and later moved to Ohio, where he was engaged in mercantile pursuits. He also carried on farming, and held various county offices. Upon coming to Labette county, he located in Elm Grove township, one mile north of Edna, where he bought the southeast quarter of section 17, township 34, range 19. Later he retired, his last active work being in 1892-93, when he served as deputy county clerk under his son. During that time he lived in Oswego. His sight has been failing in the past few years, but notwithstanding that he is hale and hearty. He married Abigail Harris, who was reared in Ohio. She is also living in Edna. Six children were born to them: David H.; Francis W., who lives in Edna; and Claude, Wilbur, Annie and Minnie, deceased.

Francis W. Martin, the brother of our subject, was born at St. Clairsville, Ohio, in 1855,

and assisted his father on the farm until he reached the age of sixteen years. He attended school, and later taught school in Labette county two or three years. He assisted considerably in clerical work at the court house in Oswego, having served as deputy county treasurer. He was postmaster at Edna from 1889 till 1894. He married Ida Keeler, September 23, 1877, in Labette county. She was born in New York, but reared in Illinois, and located in Labette county in 1873. She is a daughter of Charles M. Keeler, who is also a resident of this county. Mrs. Martin served as county superintendent of schools during 1895-96, while they were living at Oswego.

David H. Martin, the subject of this sketch, was reared in Labette county, where he taught school three or four years. In 1888-89 he was deputy county clerk under W. J. Millikin, and also served as clerk during 1892-93. During 1890-91 he taught school at Altamont, and elsewhere, until elected county clerk. He then was the editor of the *Parsons Independent* until June, 1894, when he accepted the position of assistant chief clerk at the state penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas, under Warden S. W. Chase. He was there thirteen months, when he returned to Labette county, and worked for four months in the county treasurer's office. Being affected with rheumatism, he gave up the position and recuperated until February, 1897. He then resumed the old position at the penitentiary under Warden Landis, remaining there until January 1, 1900. He then began his present business at Edna, dealing in dry goods, groceries, shoes, queensware, etc. He has an entirely new stock of goods, and occupies a building 60 by 22 feet. He employs one assistant, and does a large business. Mr. Martin owns 160 acres of farm land near Edna, and some town lots. He is very prosperous, and is

a superior business man, being honest and upright in his dealings with all.

Mr. Martin married H. Lesley Burns, at Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas, November 18, 1890. She is a daughter of Patrick Burns, and was reared in Indiana, coming to Labette county in 1885. Mr. Martin is a member of the People's party, and was recently elected city clerk. Fraternally, he is a member of the M. W. of A., of which he is venerable consul. In religious views, he is liberal. Mr. Martin has always taken a prominent part in the development of Labette county, and is highly respected in the community.

---

**D**R. JAMES HENRY WOODUL. Among the prominent physicians residing at Edna, Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He was born in Wilson county, Tennessee, December 22, 1834, and is a son of George W. and Amanda (Allen) Woodul.

George W. Woodul was a mechanic by trade; his death occurred in Illinois in 1870, where he had moved in the "fifties." He married Amanda Allen, a native of Tennessee, and she died in Illinois sometime after his decease. Five children born to them reached maturity, namely: James Henry; Kitty and Elizabeth, deceased; Sophia (Calvert), formerly of Texas, but now living in Oklahoma; and Lucinda, deceased.

Dr. Woodul was reared, as a boy, but 16 miles from the "Hermitage," and in 1853 left his native place and went to Missouri, where he alternately taught and attended school for several years. He attended Cumberland University, at Lebanon, Tennessee, and his last

study, excepting his medical course, was at St. Paul's College, at Palmyra, Missouri. He held the office of superintendent of the schools at Scottville, Virden, and Pana, Illinois. His last school was at California, Missouri, near Jefferson City. After the close of the war, Dr. Woodul decided to study medicine. He attended lectures at the Missouri Medical College, at St. Louis, graduated in 1875, and afterward began practicing. He went to Jamestown, Moniteau county, Missouri, where he remained one year, and then to Columbus, Johnson county, Missouri, where he entered into partnership with Dr. Newman, and later was associated with Dr. Coleman one year. He then practiced two or three years alone, after which he went to Jackson county, Missouri, and in 1881 graduated from the Kansas City Medical College. Dr. Woodul then went to Aubrey, Johnson county, Missouri, where he practiced for three years. In 1884 he went to Whiting, Jackson county, Kansas, where he remained nine years. From Jackson county, he moved in 1893 to a point 11 miles north-east of Carthage, but returned after two years to Whiting, where he still had property. After disposing of this property, he moved to Labette county, where he built a comfortable home in Edna, and opened an office over R. H. Muzzy's hardware store. He has an excellent practice, and is well pleased with Labette county. In the few years he has resided in this county he has won the confidence of the citizens of Edna, and is highly esteemed as a gentleman of learning and honesty. He has a large and lucrative practice, and is considered one of the best physicians in the county. Dr. Woodul served as mayor of Edna during 1900.

Dr. Woodul was married in Missouri in 1861 to Adelaide Lillard. She was born in

Maryland in 1840, and is a daughter of W. C. and Sarah J. (Richmond) Lillard. Her father was a farmer, and located in Missouri when she was young. He is deceased, but his wife still lives in Lafayette county, Missouri. Dr. Woodul and his wife have been the parents of nine children, namely: Washington Harold, of Arkansas City, Kansas, who works in the Santa Fe railroad offices; Richard Lynn, who is a railroad agent at Alice, Texas; Eva F. (Spears), who lives at Oneida, Kansas; Bell S. (Watts), who is the wife of Dr. Watts, of Napoleon, Missouri; Helen (Myers), who is the wife of a merchant of Whiting, Kansas; Maude (Hobert), whose husband is agent for the Chicago Great Western Railway Company, and lives at De Kalb, Illinois; Lewis Edwin, who is in the employ of the "Sunset" route, at Schulenberg, Texas; Charles B., of Alice, Texas, who is in the employ of the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway Company; and Milton Chester, aged twenty years, who is at home.

Dr. Woodul is a Republican, in politics. Fraternally, he is a member of the I. O. O. F. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian church.



C. ARNOLD, proprietor of the largest general store in Edna, Labette county, Kansas, located in the county in the fall of 1883. He is a native of Henry county, Kentucky, was born in 1859, and is a son of J. L. and Sophia (Barbee) Arnold.

J. L. Arnold was a Kentuckian, and died in his native state in 1894. He was a Jeffersonian Democrat in politics. His wife, Sophia (Barbee) Arnold, died in 1890. They reared five sons and three daughters, namely: Kate,





WILLIAM G. HOOVER.



deceased at the age of twelve years; Emma (Batterton) and Nathaniel, of Eminence, Kentucky; Joshua C., the subject of this sketch; Ella C. (Logan), of Lexington, Kentucky; Robert L., a merchant of Anthony, Kansas; C. C., a merchant at Carl Junction, Missouri; and William F., an attorney at Lowell, Massachusetts.

J. C. Arnold was reared in Kentucky, where he attended the college at Eminence. He assisted his father on the farm until he reached his majority, and in the fall of 1883 removed to Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, where he farmed for three years. He then moved to old Kingston, where he lived for six months, and then returned to Edna, to which point the town of Kingston had moved. He conducted a dry goods, grocery and gents' furnishing store, under his own name, for a time, and then entered into partnership with his brother, under the firm name of Arnold Brothers. This partnership continued for five years; since 1896, the firm name has been J. C. Arnold & Son. Mr. Arnold entered the present two-story, brick building, 100 by 25 feet in dimensions, in 1899, and has a large well stocked store. The *Sun* printing office is on the second floor, and the remaining space there is used for clothing and carpets. Mr. Arnold carries a stock of goods worth \$20,000, and does an immense business. His Indian trade is very heavy, and extends from 20 to 25 miles south. Mr. Arnold employs six assistants.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Janie Thomas, of Newcastle, Kentucky, and they have three sons and one daughter, namely: Richard, who is in partnership with his father; Nathaniel, who is at home; William, who is two years old; and Helen. Mr. Arnold has a fine home in Edna, and is one of the most progressive citizens of

the town. He is a man of honest and open business methods, and is highly esteemed for his loyalty as a citizen. Politically, Mr. Arnold is a Democrat. He is a member of the Edna lodge, A. F. & A. M.; the I. O. O. F., of Edna; and the K. of P. In religious views, he is liberal.



WILLIAM G. HOOVER, one of the most prominent citizens of Richland township, Labette county, Kansas, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, resides in section 3, one mile from the town of Chetopa. He is president of the Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Chetopa, and is an extensive dealer in cattle and lands. He was born in Logan county, Ohio, December 10, 1836, and is a son of George W. and Pamela (Rosier) Hoover.

George W. Hoover was born in Greenbrier county, Virginia (now West Virginia), of German extraction, and went to Ohio, when fourteen years old, with his father, Jacob, whom he well remembers. George W. Hoover became a prosperous sheep raiser in Ohio. In 1852 he went to Texas, and located about 15 miles northwest of Fort Worth, where he was engaged quite extensively in farming. He next moved to Labette county, Kansas, and settled two miles southeast of Chetopa, where he took a claim in the spring of 1867, and ranked among the pioneers of the county. He afterward moved to the town of Chetopa, where he resided until his death, January 19, 1878, at the age of sixty-eight years. He married Pamela Rosier, by whom he had five children, as follows: William G.; Esther Jane, deceased; Martin V., a wealthy cattle man, whose farm adjoins that of the subject hereof, with whom he was in partnership until recent


years; and Susan R. (Bell) and Matilda (Croft), of Texas. Mrs. Hoover died at an early age, and Mr. Hoover afterward married Mary Swallow, now Mrs. Caveness, of Oregon. A nephew of her husband had charge of the *Advance* office at Chetopa.

William G. Hoover availed himself of good advantages for mental training in the common schools of Ohio. He remained at home and assisted his father until the spring of 1858, when, on his own account, he began dealing in stock in Texas. This has been his life work from boyhood, and he has achieved a marked success. He commenced raising and keeping cattle on his father's place, and did all the riding and herding for many years. In 1868 he followed his father to Labette county, and brought with him to Chetopa some Texas cattle. After living there about four years,—he moved, in 1873, to his present home, one mile south of town, where he has a fine place of 80 acres. This he has improved, and cultivates it for his own use,—employing one or two men most of the time. He has mainly raised tame grass, having had excellent success with timothy and clover. One meadow he has mowed for eight successive seasons, and raises the best quality of hay. He still handles from 150 to 200 head of cattle yearly, and also some horses and hogs. He has very little choice between Durham and Hereford, and keeps high grade stock. From 1868 to 1880 he and his brother, Martin V., were in partnership, and handled from 1,000 to 1,500 head of cattle per year, which grazed mainly in the "Nation." Until recent years, when their families have become mature, Mr. Hoover and his brother had a unique way of applying the partnership funds,—each using what he needed out of the common money and supplies. Harmony prevailed and no bookkeep-

ing was necessary. Since 1880 Mr. Hoover has handled from 100 to 300 head of native cattle, and devoted his attention to money lending. Aside from his banking interests, the firm of W. G. Hoover & Brother still exists and does a large land and stock business. They have 20 farms, approximating 3,000 acres of land, in Labette and Cherokee counties. Both are self made men, and never received any assistance from their father. Owing to his increasing business, and other circumstances, on March 17, 1898, the subject hereof organized the Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Chetopa. He holds a controlling interest in the capital stock of \$15,000, and serves as its president. E. W. Bedell is vice-president; H. W. Bedell, cashier; and George M. Hoover, bookkeeper. The first banking house established in Chetopa was the Spaulding Bank, which collapsed in 1869, one year after its inception. The second was the private bank of Mr. Ketcham, organized in the spring of 1870. It was conducted a short time, or until the First National Bank of Chetopa was organized,—Mr. Hoover being a director and Mr. Ketcham president. This bank continued in operation until 1875, and then voluntarily liquidated, owing to its excessive capital stock of \$50,000, which its business did not warrant. The next was the Ketcham private bank, under the title of Ketcham & Company, which was operated for some time, R. W. Officer finally becoming its president. It then became the private bank of Clark & Sturgis, then Clark & Bates, and was finally merged into the Citizens State Bank, which is now liquidating. Mr. Hoover has turned over to the Farmers & Merchants State Bank most of his loan business, thus relieving him of much care and labor.

William G. Hoover was united in mar-

20 Port B. P. m cmfw etavbgketvbgkqqriage, in Cherokee county, Kansas, with Sophia Donaldson, who died in 1886, leaving four children: Cora (Carpenter), of Cherokee county, Kansas; Flora E., who is at home; Maud S. (Marley), of Kansas City, Kansas; and George M., who married Inez Hardy, and has a son, William H. George M. is book-keeper in the Farmers & Merchants State Bank. The subject of this sketch formed a second marital union by wedding Clara Smith, of Labette county. In politics, he is a staunch Republican, and was county commissioner from 1880 to 1883. He was on the school board for twenty-five years, and has been township trustee two or three terms; he has also served as assessor. Fraternally, he has been a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, since 1875. In religious attachments, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is also a trustee of Baker University. He is a man of great influence in the community, and has many friends of long years standing, who hold him in the highest esteem.

EORGE DALLAS BOON, M. D., who has been actively engaged in practice at Chetopa since 1870, is one of the most successful and best known physicians of that section of the county. He is a valued member of the community, and his hundreds of patients are numbered as his friends as well. He was born April 15, 1845, in Holmes county, Ohio, near Fredericksburg, and is a son of Thomas and Lydia (Beerbower) Boon.

Thomas Boon was a farmer by occupation. He married Lydia Beerbower, by whom

he had four children, as follows: J. C., who was a member of the 3d Reg., Iowa Vol. Cav., during the Civil War, was killed in the service; Sarah E. (McCallam) resides at Walden, Colorado, where her husband is the editor of a paper; George Dallas; and William C., who died in 1893, and who was a physician, practicing at Chetopa for some years prior to his death.

George D. Boon, at an early age, removed with the family to Birmingham, Van Buren county, Iowa, where he was reared and primarily educated until he reached his eighteenth year. When the Civil War broke out, his father removed to Illinois, and in 1874 came to Chetopa, Kansas, where he died in 1883, at the age of sixty-five years. Mrs. Boon, who came of a Pennsylvania-Dutch family, died four months later at Chetopa, at the age of sixty-three years. Although George D. was too young and too light for service in the army,—weighing at the time but 115 pounds,—he determined to enlist, and to run away from home if necessary. As he was leaving home to put his plans into execution, his brother returned on a furlough and persuaded him to wait and accompany him to the scene of action a little later, in the meantime securing parental consent. He enlisted in the 4th Independent Battery, Iowa Light Artillery, and served two years, mainly in the Army of the Gulf, where he was attached, at different times, to the 16th, 19th, and 13th Army Corps. He spent six months in the suburbs of New Orleans, and thirteen months in the swamps, to protect the garrison at New Orleans. He was mustered out at Davenport, Iowa, July 14, 1865, and returned to Illinois, where he attended school at Monmouth for one year. He later attended the commercial college located in that city, and graduated in 1867. He

then took a course of lectures in the medical department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and was graduated with the degree of M. D., in 1870. On April 14, of that year, he came west to Chetopa, Kansas, entered upon practice, and made a success of it from the start. He readily acquired a remunerative patronage, and has since retained and added to it. He has a thorough understanding of his profession, is a constant student, keeps in touch with all that is modern in medical science, and has met with great success in his treatment of the most intricate cases. He has an excellent suite of rooms over Mr. Bush's drug store, which he has occupied since 1895. Associated with him in practice is his son, W. M. Boon. Dr. Boon was obliged to borrow the money necessary to bring him to Chetopa, and at the present time he owns valuable city property and two fine farms, in addition to which he has given each of his children a superior education.

Dr. Boon was united in marriage at America City, Nemaha county, Kansas, with Martha J. Danley, a daughter of John and Jane (Brownlee) Danley, of Monmouth, Illinois. Mrs. Boon's parents were natives of Washington county, Pennsylvania, the former of Scotch-Irish descent and the latter descended from the Scotch Earl of Torfot. This worthy couple reared a family of eight children, as follows: John W., who died in infancy; Margaret, who died, aged seventeen years; Levinia, who married Harry C. Whistler, now living in Kansas; Elizabeth, who married Nathaniel Atchinson, of Chicago, Illinois; Hugh B. and Nancy B., deceased; James; and Martha J. Mrs. Boon's parents moved to Fulton county, Illinois, in 1849, and later to Monmouth, Illinois. The father died in 1892,

aged eighty-seven years. The mother died in 1859, aged forty-seven years. After she was sixteen years of age Mrs. Boon received her education in the public schools and in Monmouth College. She later taught school in the vicinity of Monmouth, Illinois, and still later near Topeka, Kansas. After spending one year in the East, she was married in 1872. She joined the United Presbyterian church at the age of eighteen years. She is a member of the W. R. C., and has held nearly all the chairs in that body. She is also a member of the Fraternal Aid, of which she is past president. Her brother, Hugh B., died in the Paducah, Kentucky, Regimental Hospital. He was a member of Company D, 132d Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf.

The union of Dr. Boon and Martha J. Danley resulted in seven children: W. M., a graduate of Jefferson Medical College; George T., of Chetopa, who graduated at the Chicago Dental College, and married Matie C. Bedell, a daughter of E. W. Bedell; Harry Webster, a graduate of the Chicago Dental College, practicing at Durant, Indian Territory; Mattie Marche, who is taking instruction in instrumental and vocal music, elocution and art in a ladies' seminary at Liberty, Missouri; John Blaine; Vivian Elizabeth; and Loyal Danley. Dr. Boon is a Republican and was in the council one year and on the board of education. For ten years he was medical examiner on the pension board, from which office he finally resigned, being succeeded by his son, W. M. Boon. Fraternally, he is a member of the Southeastern Kansas Medical Society; G. A. R., Chetopa Post, of which he has always been surgeon; and the A. O. U. W. at Chetopa. In religious views he was raised in the United Presbyterian church but is liberal.

**F**RANK W. ELLIOTT, who has ably filled the office of postmaster at Edna, Kansas, since 1898, was born February 2, 1858, in Clark county, Illinois. He is a son of Alfred and Lydia (Johnson) Elliott.

Alfred Elliott is of English descent, and during his active life followed the occupation of a farmer. He pre-empted the northwest quarter of section 30, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township. He now lives with his son, Grant, four miles west of Edna. Mr. Elliott married Lydia Johnson, who was born in Indiana, and died in Labette county, on the farm, in 1876. This union resulted in the birth of six children, namely: Cornelia, who married H. H. Leib, a prominent cattleman of the Indian Territory; D. G., of Edna, Kansas; Frank W., the subject of this sketch; Amanda, who died in 1882, and who was the wife of George Whaples, of Elm Grove township; Rose (Graham), who is at present in Oklahoma; and Grant, a farmer, of Elm Grove township.

When Frank W. Elliott was but four years old, the family moved from Illinois to Indiana, where he attended the common schools, and later when his parents moved to Labette county he attended the schools of this county. He also attended the Kansas State Normal School, at Fort Scott. Mr. Elliott was reared on the farm, and at the age of twenty years went to Oswego, where he was engaged in the lively business for some time. He returned to Edna, Kansas, where he bought grain for the George A. Adams Grain Company. He continued in that position for five years, when he resigned to accept the appointment of postmaster. He received this appointment February 1, 1898, to succeed W. H. Pottorff. Mr. Elliott discharges his duties in a faithful and

conscientious manner, and deserves to be his own successor.

Mr. Elliott was married in Labette county, Kansas, at Mound Valley, to Mattie Bowen, of Vincennes, Indiana, who is a niece of S. S. Kirkpatrick. Three children have resulted from this union, namely: Minnie, aged twelve years; Verl, aged seven years; and Alfred, Jr., aged five years. Mr. Elliott is a strong Republican. He is a member of the M. W. A., of Edna, and his wife is a member of the Auxiliary. In a religious connection, Mr. Elliott and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church. They own their home in Edna, and are well known and highly respected by all.

**G**EORGE LUTZ, a retired druggist and ex-mayor of Mound Valley, was born at Mount Carmel, Wabash county, Illinois, in 1841. He is a son of Nicholas Lutz.

Nicholas Lutz was born of German extraction, and followed the trade of a shoe-maker. He lived in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, for a number of years, and later in life moved to Illinois, where he now lives having reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He has been thrice married; his first wife died when her son, George, was quite young. She left one other son, Philip, who is a farmer and cotton planter, of Texas. The second marriage of Nicholas Lutz resulted in one child, Mary, who married Lucian Turner. She now lives in Hammond, Indiana. His third union was with Mamie Good, and was blessed with six children: William; John; Fannie; Ella; Laura; and Ada.

George Lutz, the subject of this sketch, was reared in Illinois, where he attended the



common schools. In 1861, at the call of President Lincoln for volunteers, Mr. Lutz enlisted in Company I, 40th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and served as a private in the 15th Army Corps, under General Logan. He served for three years, in the 40th Regiment, and for one year in the 8th Reg., Veteran Vol. Inf. He was wounded in the eye at the battle of Shiloh. After Mr. Lutz was mustered out he returned to Illinois, where he attended the business college at Olney. On completing the course, in 1867, he moved to Kansas, where he studied pharmacy, and assisted in different drug stores. He had no aid from his father, and has made his own way in the world. In 1868 Mr. Lutz took up a claim in Mound Valley township,—the northwest quarter of section 11, township 33, range 18. He farmed but little, but held and kept the land in good state of improvement. In 1870 he became a clerk in the general merchandise and drug store of Anderson & Tanner. In partnership with Mr. Harnady, in 1876, Mr. Lutz bought a grocery business, and one year later the partnership was dissolved. In 1877 he purchased a drug store of R. Blackley, which he later sold. Subsequently he purchased the drug business owned by Dr. Tanner, which he conducted until June, 1899. James Lear, Jr., now owns the store, and Mr. Lutz has been retired for the past two years.

Mr. Lutz is one of the six members of the Mound Valley National Gas & Mineral Company, four of the other members being: A. P. Sanders, president; Mr. Ellsworth, vice-president; L. H. Wise, secretary; and Albert Wise, treasurer. They furnish the town with abundant gas for fuel and lighting purposes. Mr. Lutz was postmaster of Mound Valley, during President Arthur's administration. Mr. Lutz is a Republican, in politics, and is one of the most influential citizens in the town. He served as

mayor of Mound Valley, for two terms, the second term having just expired. He filled this office to the entire satisfaction of all, and with credit to himself. Albert Wise is his successor. Fraternally, Mr. Lutz is a member of the G. A. R. Post; he is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Mound Valley Lodge, No. 218, and also of the I. O. O. F.,—having joined the last named organization in the "sixties." In religious views, he is liberal,—giving his support to all churches. Mr. Lutz is a self made man, and is very popular in Labette county, where he is well known.



R. CLARK, foreman of car repairers for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, at Parsons, Kansas, began railroading in early life, and is a mechanic of no mean ability. Mr. Clark was born in Gentry county, Missouri, March 6, 1858, and is a son of J. M. and S. E. (Boggs) Clark. His father was a native of Tennessee, and was a miller by trade; he departed this life in 1859. His mother, who is now Mrs. Cochran, is a resident of Cedar county, Missouri. A. J. Clark, the only brother of T. R., follows the same line of business as the latter, and he has spent many years in the employ of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company, whose lines are included in the Union Pacific Railroad system.

Mr. Clark was reared in his native state, and attended school until he attained the age of eighteen years. After leaving school, he worked as clerk in a store for some time, previous to entering upon a railroad career. July 4, 1877, Mr. Clark left Missouri for Parsons, Kansas, where his uncle, J. W. Boggs, had a position waiting for him in the car shops, and



there the subject of this sketch commenced at the bottom of the ladder. He first worked as a car cleaner; there were at that time from eight to ten men employed in the car repairing department,—in striking contrast to the 28 now required to perform the necessary work. Mr. Boggs, who was himself in charge of the repairing department, and was the first repairer in Parsons, died in Portland, Oregon, in 1898.

After some time, Mr. Clark was advanced to do car repairing, and on October 7, 1887, he was still further promoted to be foreman of the repairing department, succeeding Mr. Eubank,—this position he maintains to the present day. He superintends all necessary repairs, having 12 expert machinists, as repairers. He has able assistance in the services of A. Falconer, foreman of the wrecking crew. He has a thorough knowledge of the requirements of his position, which he has filled in such an eminently satisfactory manner, and his success goes to show his superior executive ability. His wide knowledge of railroad affairs enables him to carry on all necessary work with a nicety excelled by few.

In 1885 Mr. Clark was joined in wedlock with Allie M. Wanless, an only child of J. A. and Theodosia E. Wanless, of Leavenworth, Kansas, where Mrs. Clark's birth occurred, May 23, 1864. Her father died when she was but three years old. He was a graduate of West Point, was a captain in the regular army, and traveled much over the western country. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark, namely: Grace T., Allie B., Thomas A., Helen E., and Orville Paul. They have a comfortable home at No. 605 South Twenty-first street, to which they have added many improvements and conveniences. Fraternally, Mr. Clark is a member of the A. F. & A. M.

lodge at Parsons, having been made a Mason as soon as he reached his majority. He also affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America, while his wife is a member of the Knights and Ladies of Security. Both unite in religious views and attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Realizing that intemperance is the greatest evil of mankind, Mr. Clark is a thorough Prohibitionist, and uses his influence and best efforts in furthering the interests of that party in his locality. No one in Parsons is more highly respected and esteemed, and every whit of this respect is fully deserved.



WILLIAM F. THRALL, postmaster at Mound Valley, Labette county, Kansas, and editor of that substantial paper, the *Mound Valley Herald*, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1853. He is a son of Rufus and Mary (Woodruff) Thrall.

Rufus Thrall was born in New York, and his wife was also a native of that state. At present they are living in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and the former has reached the age of seventy-four years. Two other children besides William F. are living: Mrs. C. B. Woodruff, of Joplin, Missouri; and Mrs. N. S. Gandy, of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

William F. Thrall received his mental training in Decatur, Illinois, to which place his parents moved when he was quite young. In 1873 Mr. Thrall moved, with his parents, to Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, where he entered the office of the *Independent*, and learned the trade of a printer, and remained there nine years. He then moved to Idaho, where he worked at his trade for two years, after which he returned to Labette county, and located at

Mound Valley. There he purchased the Mound Valley *Herald*, and has edited and published that paper ever since. He engages one printer, but personally manages and edits the paper. It is the only paper in Mound Valley, and has a large circulation. Mr. Thrall is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and is well equipped for conducting a newspaper of this kind. He is a very prominent man in the town, and is highly esteemed by all. November 19, 1897, Mr. Thrall was appointed postmaster of Mound Valley, and in connection with that office handles stationery of all kinds.

Mr. Thrall was united in marriage with Mary Martin in 1878. She was born in Ray county, Missouri, in 1861, and is a daughter of Scott and Catherine (Shartzler) Martin. Her father is of Scotch descent, and was born in Virginia. He was a wagon-maker and blacksmith by trade, and died at the age of thirty-eight years. Mrs. Martin was born in Kentucky, but was reared in Virginia, and died in Oswego, Kansas, aged fifty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Thrall have one daughter, whose name is Vonie. She was born in Hailey, Idaho, November 29, 1883, on Thanksgiving day.

Mr. Thrall is a member of several fraternal organizations, among them the I. O. O. F., A. O. U. W., and M. W. of A. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Thrall has assisted largely in the growth and development of Mound Valley, and no public enterprise is completed without his assistance.



JOHN A. CRAFT. This gentleman has been one of the well known farmers in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, for a great many years, having located there in the fall of 1869. He lives

in section 10, township 31, range 18, where he carries on general farming. Mr. Craft was born in Ontario county, New York, near Canandaigua Lake, in January, 1845, and is a son of William and Eliza Ann (Boone) Craft.

William Craft was born in 1810, and was of English and Scotch descent. In 1873, he moved to Labette county, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. His death occurred at the advanced age of eighty-three years. He married Eliza Ann Boone, and they were blessed by the birth of 10 children, two of whom died in infancy. The names of those surviving are: Charles; Phoebe; Delilah Elizabeth; Martha Jane; Mary Ann; John A.; William H., whose farm is across the road from that of John A.; and Mrs. Henrietta Pond, a twin of William H. Her husband is a blacksmith, of Dennis.

John A. Craft was but eight years old when his parents moved to Michigan, where the father farmed. Mr. Craft attended the common schools three months out of the year, and remained at home until he was twenty-three years old. He served three months in the employ of the government, in the Pioneer Corps, during the war. He assisted in building bridges and in other necessary work,—making his headquarters at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mr. Craft was married in 1867, after which he moved to Labette county, Kansas, and located near Parsons. He first secured a railroad claim, and in 1872 traded it for his present farm, which is the southeast quarter of section 10, township 31, range 18. This land had been preempted by Harvey Hart, and but ten acres had been broken. Mr. Craft and the other settlers, in 1869, did their trading at Labette City and Montana, and they were often troubled by claim jumpers. Mr. Craft





W. H. McKEEHEN.  
JOHN H. McKEEHEN.

G. M. McKEEHEN.  
MRS. MARY M. McKEEHEN.

raises considerable fruit, and has a large, well kept farm. He is a careful and painstaking worker, and his farm presents a neat and thrifty appearance. It is surrounded by a fine hedge fence, which Mr. Craft set out.

Mr. Craft was united in marriage with Sarah Augusta Barton, who was born in October, 1845, in New York, and is a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Newman) Barton. Her father was an Englishman, and a harness-maker, by trade. Mrs. Craft was one of a family of ten children and was reared in Michigan and Illinois, where her parents had moved. The subject of this sketch and his wife have been blessed with two children: Mary Addie and Elmer Eugene. Mary Addie (Scott) married a farmer of Osage township, and they have four children,—Charles, Alonzo, John Lowell, and Ernie. Elmer Eugene lives in Erie, Neosho county, Kansas, and is in the publishing business. He married Ethel Neal.

Mr. Craft is an independent voter, and although always interested in the politics of the township, he has refused proffered offices. He was formerly a member of the Anti-Horse-thief Association. He belongs to the A. O. U. W. lodge, of Dennis, and also to the Fraternal Aid of that place. He is very well known in Labette county, where he is admired for his honest, upright character. Religiously, he favors the Missionary Baptist church.

reared 10 children. Two of them are in Washington,—G. W. is a carpenter; William is a railroad employee. E. B. is a professional man and trader, in Tennessee. The others, who are daughters, live in Tennessee.

John H. McKeehen received his mental training in his native state, where he lived until he reached the age of twenty-two years. At the time he located in Labette county, May 12, 1869, he had but one suit of clothes and \$19.50 in money. He settled in Osage township in the northeast quarter of section 14, township 31, range 17, being one of a party of three who settled in that section. Mr. Sparks lives on the southeast quarter of the section, and W. A. Collins, the third of the party, has left the county. Mr. McKeehen worked and boarded at different places until his marriage, when he located permanently. He first built a box house 12 by 16 feet, in size, which is now used as a kitchen. He erected his present house in 1891, and in 1900 built a new barn, corn-crib and granary. When he settled on this farm there was little timber; one elm sprout, which escaped the plow, is now a large tree. Mr. McKeehen has about five acres of orchard and forest trees. The yard is studded with flowers and vines, and a few hives of bees supply honey. Mr. McKeehen has rented some additional farming land since his sons have grown to manhood. He takes great pride in his farm, which presents a very neat and attractive appearance, and speaks well for its owner's thrift and energy.

Mr. McKeehen was united in marriage with Mary M. Rinker, who was born in Indiana, in 1857. She was one of seven children. Her mother is yet living, but her father died several years ago. Three children have resulted from her union with Mr. McKeehen, namely: W. H., G. M. and Jessie A. In



JOHN H. MCKEEHEN, one of Labette county's early settlers, was born in Carter county, Tennessee, in 1846, and is a son of W. W. and Nancy (Douglas) McKeehen. They were natives of Tennessee, and were of Scotch descent. They

politics, Mr. McKeehen is an independent voter, although he was raised a Republican. He has served as trustee of Osage township five terms, which shows the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens. He is now treasurer of the school board in District No. 102. He is a member of the Christian church, at Cherryvale. He has the advantage of living on the free mail delivery route. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. McKeehen and their two sons, W. H. and G. M., accompany this sketch.

**J**AMES SHONE, blacksmith foreman on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, residing at Parsons, Kansas, was born in Manchester, England, in December, 1847, and has lived in many parts of the United States. He is a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Chisnall) Shone, the former of Welsh, and the latter of Scotch descent.

Samuel Shone was a blacksmith by trade. He came to the United States about 1850, landing at Galveston, Texas, where he followed his trade for a year or two. While there, the family suffered an attack of the yellow fever, and James was one of the victims; no case, however, proved fatal. The prevalence of this dread disease in the South caused the family to remove further north. They traveled by steamboat to Cincinnati, Ohio, and thence went to Springfield, Massachusetts, where the elder Shone worked in the Springfield Armory. They next went to Meriden, Connecticut, where they remained a short time. From that place, they moved to Hamilton, Canada, where the father was employed, about a year and a half, in a wrench and vise factory. In the late "fifties," he went to St. Louis, Missouri,

where he followed his trade successfully for many years. His death took place in that city, in 1870, when he had passed his forty-ninth birthday. His widow survived him until 1888, when she died at the home of her son, James, at the age of sixty-four years. One of her sisters, Mrs. Margaret Howarth, of Manchester, England, is still living, and is eighty-six years old.

Mr. Shone is the eldest of five children. The others are: Samuel, George, John, and Maggie Elizabeth. Samuel was born in England, and is a blacksmith foreman on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, at Denison, Texas. George was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, and is a competent master mechanic on the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, residing at Alamosa, Colorado. John was also born in Springfield, Massachusetts, and is round-house foreman at Parsons, Kansas. Maggie Elizabeth, the only sister, resides at Nevada, Missouri; she is the wife of Engineer Jennings, who is also employed on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, having a run on the branch leading to Eldorado Springs. The mechanical ability of the father was transmitted to the sons, all of whom are good mechanics and railroad employees.

In 1862, while living in St. Louis, Missouri, James Shone became an apprentice in the shops of the old Ohio & Mississippi Railroad, where he served for four years, mainly under Master Mechanic Charles Williams, finishing, however, under C. T. Ham and Harry Elliott. Completing his apprenticeship, he accepted a position as blacksmith on the old North Missouri Railroad at St. Charles, Missouri. A few months later, he obtained a more lucrative position on the Cairo Short Line, upon which he worked until 1877. Later, he worked on the M. O. P. R. R. He then went west, to



Parsons, Kansas, where he has remained ever since.

September 21, 1871, he was joined in wedlock with Mary A. Moore, the ceremony being performed at the home of the bride in Canton, Missouri. Mrs. Shone is of Scotch-Irish descent. She was born in St. Louis Missouri, in 1852, and is a daughter of Robert and Mary (Moore) Moore. Her parents, although having the same name, were not related to each other. Her father died in February, 1897, and her mother is still living at Canton, Missouri, aged seventy-five years. Mrs. Shone is the eldest of six children. The others are: Mrs. Lizzie Alderton, and Mrs. Nellie Marks, both of Canton, Missouri; Robert, a blacksmith, of Los Angeles, California; Mrs. Lydia Marks, also of Canton, Missouri; and Mrs. Mattie Meal, of Sugar Loaf, Colorado. Mrs. Shone was reared and schooled in St. Louis, Missouri, where the family lived for many years. They formerly lived upon and owned the land which is now occupied by the new union depot, of that city, but subsequently moved to Canton, Missouri.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Shone has been blessed with four children,—three daughters, and one son, namely: Mamie E., Nellie, Alice, and George. Alice died in infancy, and George, who was born in 1881, was accidentally drowned when twelve years and five days old. This was a sad blow to his fond parents, whose hopes are now centered in their two eldest daughters, who still brighten the home fireside. The three ladies of the household are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. In their religious views, they favor the Baptist church.

Mr. Shone was made a Mason at Parsons, and now affiliates with the blue lodge, chapter and commandery, of that city. He is also a

member of the Fraternal Aid and of the A. O. U. W. In politics, he is a staunch Republican, and has served on the school board, and takes a decided interest in educational matters. Upon his arrival in Parsons, he engaged, at once, as a blacksmith on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, under W. T. Small. He was promoted in January, 1883, to be foreman of the blacksmith shops under Master Mechanic Joseph Haines, and has held that position up to the present time. Mr. Shone has charge of all blacksmith work, and of the locomotive department from Parsons to Hannibal, Missouri, and from Franklin Junction to St. Louis. He has charge of a force of about 25 men, ten of whom are expert blacksmiths. He succeeded D. K. McPherson, and the position was previously filled by only three or four foremen, who served short terms before McPherson's incumbency. In the successful performance of his various duties, Mr. Shone has at all times shown rare skill and judgment, and in all his dealings he is keen, accurate, and upright. His pleasant, sociable manners have made him a prime favorite on the road, and he has the esteem of all who know him. He has a comfortable home at No. 1926 Stevens avenue.



AMBROSE McELROY SOURBEER, foreman of the brass foundry of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway machine shops, in Parsons, Kansas, in which all the brass work of the entire system is molded, was born in the town of Safe Harbor, on the Susquehanna river, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1846. He is a son of Jonas and Ingerber Theresa (O'Connor) Sourbeer.

Jonas Sourbeer was also a native of Pennsylvania, of German descent. He never moved

west, and died in 1887. His family consisted of eight children, namely: H. C., Ambrose McElroy, Henrietta Delia, William Bigler, Ann Elizabeth, Charles Elam, Maud Frances and Rebecca. H. C. is a resident of Parsons, and a dealer in poultry, feed products, etc.; he is one of the early residents of Parsons, but has been absent at times. Henrietta Delia (Carroll) resides in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. William Bigler is a bookkeeper at a small town near St. Louis, on the Iron Mountain Railway. Ann Elizabeth (Hoke), Charles Elam and Maud Frances (Wells) are also residents of Harrisburg, and Rebecca is deceased.

The subject hereof received his mental training in the common schools of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. His first work was as a helper in the rolling mill at Safe Harbor, when a boy. In 1863, he enlisted in Company H, 50th Reg., Penn. Vol. Inf., as a private. He afterward enlisted in Company D, 195th Reg., Penn. Vol. Inf. He was in the 8th Army Corps, under General Sheridan, in the valley of the Shenandoah. He was mustered out of service in the fall of 1864, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. More fortunate than many of his comrades, he served his country without receiving the slightest wound.

Mr. Sourbeer left home and went to Harrisburg, and soon after, to Indianapolis, where he remained one year. He then returned to Harrisburg, and, in 1866, found employment in the foundry. In the fall of 1868, he went to Leavenworth, Kansas, and completed his apprenticeship as a molder. Up to 1873, he was employed in Wilson, Estes & Fairchild's foundry. July 24, of that year, he arrived at Parsons, Kansas, where he began work for Qualey Bros., who built the railway shops. He worked for them one year, and then entered the employ

of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, as a brass molder. He took charge of the brass foundry, then employing from two to four men, and has since been the head of this department. He has now a force of 12 men, including helpers. All the brasses of the system are made here, about 2,500 pounds, per day, being turned out. Journal brasses for coaches, etc., are polished at the foundry, but the locomotive brasses are finished and polished at the machine shop.

Mr. Sourbeer and his wife have two sons and a daughter, who are grown to maturity. Their daughter, Minnie Theresa, is at home. Jonas Newton stays at home, and is engaged as a molder at the brass foundry, and Frank Louis, also at home, is a machinist. Mr. Sourbeer owns a comfortable home at 1630 Chess avenue. He keeps one or two horses for his own use, and for the convenience and pleasure of his family.

In politics, Mr. Sourbeer is a Republican, and is held in high esteem in the councils of his party. He has served six years as alderman from the First Ward, in which he has always resided, and has declined a nomination for mayor. He takes an active interest in fraternal societies, and is a member of the A. F. & A. M.; I. O. O. F.; A. O. U. W.; M. W. of A.; and of the G. A. R., in which he has served three terms as commander of Antietam Post, No. 64, of which John Lyle is the present commander. In his religious opinions he is very liberal.

Mr. Sourbeer was married in Leavenworth, Kansas, to Jennie C. Graff, who is one of a family of several children. The couple chanced to meet at the home of an uncle who was in the government employ at Fort Leavenworth. Mrs. Sourbeer is a devout member of the Episcopal church.





WILLIAM SLAUGHTER.



WILLIAM SLAUGHTER, a highly respected farmer, and well known resident of Fairview township, Labette county, Kansas, where he lives in the southwest quarter of section 6, is a native of Charlottesville, Virginia, where he was born in 1826. He received his primary education partly in his native state and partly in Ohio, to which state his father moved in 1831. In 1850 Mr. Slaughter moved to Tazewell county, Illinois, and was a resident of that commonwealth until 1874. He then moved to Labette county, Kansas, and located on the first farm he looked at, which was the southwest quarter of section 8, in Fairview township. He carried on farming there until the spring of 1901, when he moved to the southwest quarter of section 6, where he now lives. He sold the southwest quarter of section 8, and also the south half of the northwest quarter of section 8, and bought the south half of the southwest quarter of section 6, the north half of which he already owned. He has had a very successful agricultural career, and is considered one of the best farmers in this section of the state.

Mr. Slaughter has been married three times. By his first wife, whose name was Sarah Hudson, and who died in 1858, he has a daughter, Mary (Webster), who lives in Illinois. By his second union, with Elizabeth Cassady, there was one child, who died. Mrs. Slaughter died in 1874. His third wife's name was Amanda Baker. She died in November, 1890, leaving no children. Since then our subject's brother, Joseph J. Slaughter, and his family, have made their abode with him. Joseph J. Slaughter served four years in the Civil War, with the 115th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., under Colonel Cook. William Slaughter's brother, John, was also a soldier in the Civil

War, and died in the army. Joseph J. Slaughter settled on a farm in Elm Grove township, Labette county, in 1881. He remained in that township until 1890, when he moved to Fairview township, and has since lived with his brother.

William Slaughter, the subject of this sketch, has always been a strong Republican. He served as supervisor of Tazewell county, Illinois, and was treasurer of Labette county in 1890 and 1891. He has served Fairview township as trustee on five different occasions, and has discharged his official duties with dignity and with credit to the community. His portrait appears on a page in proximity to this.



C. COWDEN, for many years chief dispatcher and train master of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, was born at New Bedford, Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, in 1853. He has been trusted and honored with the supervision of many important details of the business.

Mr. Cowden went from Indiana, where he had been engaged in railroad work as operator, etc., to Atchison, Kansas, and later (July 2, 1881), to Labette county, Kansas, where he entered the service of the "Katy" road. It was then operated by the Missouri Pacific Railway Company. He was first assigned, for a short time, to Northern Kansas, on the Missouri Pacific Railway, then to Parsons, where he opened the dispatcher's office, the work up to that time having been done from Denison, Texas. Some years previous, an office had been started at Parsons, but it had been abandoned, and Mr. Cowden was thus the starter of the present office. He was assisted at that

time by Mr. Gay. The construction work was then completed south of Denison, and Mr. Cowden and Mr. Gay worked as "trick" dispatchers, needing no chief, and having none at that time.

Five years later, Mr. Cowden assumed the arduous duties of chief dispatcher, and also those of train-master over the Kansas City and Neosho Division, often remaining at the office the major part of the week, or all of it, having his meals brought to him. He left the service for four months, and then again accepted the chiefship, which he held until the fall of 1893, when he resigned, and has since worked the day trick, from 8 A. M. until 4 P. M. He is relieved by W. G. Koch, and Mr. Koch by E. M. Gates, whom Mr. Cowden relieves while filling the position of chief and trainmaster. Mr. Cowden hired the brakemen and operators employed on that division.

During this time, to lessen the clerical work, Mr. Cowden studied out and invented a combination cabinet for the registration and recording of trainmen, which the "Katy" is now using. It is a register and train-board combined, for use on railroads, street car lines, police headquarters, and also for libraries, etc. This device assisted subject so materially in his work, that he was advised by prominent officials of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, to patent his invention, which he did in 1890. The register, a sample of which is in use at the fine depot of the "Katy," at Parsons, is very neat in appearance, and is of wood trimmed with aluminum. The names of the trainmen are all placed on cards in the handsome case, and are not moved while a man is in the employ of the road. By a system of neat checks, it is shown whether a man is out or in, or if off duty, who is in his place, the time of going out, etc., thus obviat-

ing the necessity of troubling the dispatchers with numerous questions. The board hangs in front of the dispatcher's office. Mr. Cowden received an order, and has shipped some of the registers for use on the Gulf Railway. It is a convenience indispensable to office use, and is almost certain to be immediately adopted on all railroads. Mr. Cowden will doubtless manufacture at Parsons, as the demand increases.

Mr. Cowden is a son of Isaac P. and Amanda (Lazarus) Cowden. His father was a merchant, but had resided about eight years at Parsons previous to his death, which occurred in 1891. His mother still lives in Parsons. F. C. Cowden was the eldest of nine children: William, who is away at present, is single, and makes his home with his mother; J. D., who is an engineer on the "Katy" road, has been a resident of Parsons for the past eighteen years, and he and his family make their home with his mother on North Johnson avenue; Martin, who holds the position of night operator for the Western Union Telegraph Company, is single, and also makes his home with his mother; Caleb, deceased, was an operator on the "Katy" road. One of the daughters is Mrs. Dr. Albert Smith, of Parsons; the others are deceased.

Mr. Cowden has been twice married, his first wife having been Arvilla Diver, a native of Ohio. She died in 1883, leaving five children, viz.: Minnie, Albert D., Dora, Edwin W., and Bennie. Minnie married Mr. McDown, of Salt Lake City, Utah, who is employed as a machinist on the Rio Grande Western Railway,—they have one child, Irene, five years old. Albert D. is an operator and stenographer at Salt Lake City. Dora is a stenographer of the same place. Edwin W. is operator and agent on the Missouri, Kansas &



Texas Railway, and is located at Urbana, Kansas. Bennie is a youth of seventeen years, who is assisting his brother at Urbana, and acting as extra agent and operator. Mr. Cowden contracted a second marriage alliance. This union was with Nellie French, a daughter of Z. D. French, of Lawrenceville, Illinois, —her mother being deceased. One child, Eva, was born of this marriage, who died at the tender age of one year and five months.

In political affairs, Mr. Cowden has always been a Republican, but not a politician. Socially, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the A. O. U. W., and formerly belonged to the I. O. O. F., and Select Friends. Mrs. Cowden is a member of the Select Friends, also. Mr. Cowden and his estimable wife are members of the Presbyterian church, which religious belief subject espoused, when but fourteen years of age.



MARTIN V. DAVIS, senior member of the firm of Davis & Son, who conduct a general merchandise and feed store at Parsons, Kansas, located in Labette county in the fall of 1868, following some friends who had settled here some time previously. Mr. Davis was born in Clark county, Illinois, in 1837, and was reared in Paris, Edgar county, Illinois. He is a son of Thomas and Narcissa (Craig) Davis.

Thomas Davis was a pioneer farmer of Illinois, and died about 1885. He was a life-long Democrat, and descended from one of the first families of Kentucky. Mrs. Thomas Davis, who is still living in Illinois, and has attained the great age of eighty-five years, is of Scotch-Irish ancestry, her grandmother

having been born on the ocean, en route from Scotland to America. Thirteen children were born to this worthy couple, the eldest of whom is Martin V., the subject hereof. The second and third died in infancy. The others are: Nancy; Ardilla; Mary; Clarinda; twins, who died at birth; Melissa; Thomas B.; Amanda; and Isaac. Nancy (Moffett) died, leaving five children. Ardilla (Adams) is a resident of Charleston, Illinois. Mary first married a Mr. Ellege, who is deceased; she is now the wife of Mr. Wells, who lives at Paris, Illinois, but formerly lived in Labette county, Kansas. Clarinda married a Mr. Hancock. Melissa (Winkleblack) resides in Illinois. Thomas B. is a Baptist minister in missionary service. Amanda is the wife of Rev. Henry Toles, a Christian preacher, residing three miles south of Oklahoma City. Isaac is a prosperous farmer, living near Westfield, Illinois.

Mr. Davis had in his youth limited educational advantages. Previous to coming west, he followed agricultural pursuits in Illinois. Upon arriving in Labette county, Kansas, he took up a claim in North township, to which he added from time to time, and now owns a 500-acre farm. He followed farming until 1890, when he was elected county treasurer of Labette county, and served two years, during which he lived in Oswego, the county-seat. The following year (1893), he returned to Parsons and opened a grocery and feed store in a building which he erected for the purpose; this building was afterwards sold, and is now occupied by Mr. Holcomb.

Mr. Davis then removed his stock to his present large and commodious store at No. 1805 Johnson avenue. This store is 25 by 150 feet, in dimensions. Mr. Davis admitted his son, Thomas Jefferson, into partnership, and

the firm carries a stock of flour, feed, dry goods and groceries, a fine line of dry goods having been added, in 1900. Two other sons assist in the store, and two additional clerks are employed,—making a total of five persons required to handle the business.

In the early days, owing to the absence of railroads, Mr. Davis was obliged to send into Missouri for provisions. The settlers were then mostly along the water courses, and traveled by boat, all the best claims having been taken as early as 1870.

Mr. Davis has been thrice married. His first union was in Illinois, in 1858, with Theresa Downs, who died in 1863, leaving two sons, Thomas Jefferson and Robert James. The elder son is the junior member of the firm of Davis & Son; he married a Miss Eldridge, and they have one child, Hope. Robert James has been twice married. His first wife was a Miss Peak, before her marriage; at her death she was survived by one child, May. His second wife, Mary Reid before marriage, is also deceased, having left three daughters and one son. Robert James Davis resides at Neal, Greenwood county, Kansas, where he is successfully engaged in the hardware and grocery business. Mr. Davis gave each of his boys a farm. Farming, however, was not to their taste. Promptly disposing of their farms, they entered mercantile life.

In 1864 Mr. Davis contracted a second matrimonial alliance, being united at that time, with a Miss Wells, who died four years later, leaving an additional son to the care of her husband. This son is Isaac Nelson. He is now married and has one child, Ray, who is connected with the hardware firm of Steel & Company, of Parsons.

Again Mr. Davis forsook the state of single blessedness, and contracted a third mar-

riage; this time Clarinda Eldridge, a daughter of Otis Eldridge, of Illinois, became his wife. Five children were the result of this union. May, the eldest of these, married Dr. Peak, a prominent dentist of Parsons; Otis, the next in order of birth, was a member of the class of 1901, at the college at Emporia, Kansas; Orin T. and Martin Ernest,—both high school students; and Hollie M., aged four years.

Mr. Davis has lived to see his efforts crowned with success. In addition to his fine farm, already mentioned, and his splendid store building, he also owns a handsome residence at No. 1331 Washington avenue. Previous to his election as county treasurer, he was a Democrat, but now votes the Fusion ticket. Fraternally, he is a member of the Sons and Daughters of Justice, and of the Select Friends, of which Mrs. Davis is also a member. In his religious convictions, Mr. Davis is a believer in the old and time-honored teachings of the Church of Christ. He has made a study of the most successful business methods, and is a useful, upright and law abiding citizen, on the sunny, western slope of life.



F. TIBBETS, who was one of the earliest settlers of Labette county, Kansas, came here in 1869, and has been located upon his present home farm,—the southeast quarter of section 23, township 33, range 18,—in Mound Valley township, since 1870. He was born in Jefferson county, Indiana, December 25, 1848, and is a son of J. H. and Sarah (Nelson) Tibbets.

J. H. Tibbets and his wife now reside in Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, aged eighty-two and eighty-one years, re-





WILLIAM ROUSH.

spectively. The former was reared in Ohio, and the latter in Vermont. Two of C. F. Tibbets' brothers also came west, namely: J. N., a farmer in Oklahoma; and J. F., who resides near the subject hereof.

C. F. Tibbets was reared in Indiana and Ohio, and took advantage of the opportunities for an education afforded by the common schools of those states. Some of his friends having moved west, to Labette county, Kansas, he also took the same course in September, 1869, accompanied by his uncle, Joseph Nelson, and Dick Stott, who was formerly treasurer of Cherokee county, and a Mr. Cook, who soon after returned to Indiana. In the spring of 1870 he located as a claim his present home farm, in Mound Valley township. He went to Colorado in 1877, and spent five years in mining, after which he returned to his farm, on which he has since been located. His father also came to this county, and now resides on the southwest quarter of section 23, Canada township. C. F. Tibbets has made all the improvements upon his place, and has a first class farm in every particular. The old part of his house was built of soft pine, which had been hauled from Oswego by ox teams. His present house was built in 1882, and is of comfortable size and substantially built. A fine barn, 38 by 50 feet in size, was built several years later. He has set out considerable hedge and has some natural timber. He spent his first winter and spring in and about Oswego and Chetopa. He is engaged in diversified farming, raises corn, wheat and oats, and has a fine clover meadow. He has also had success with timothy, having seeded 14 acres, from which he cut a large amount of hay. He has an excellent supply of water from a pond 40 rods long, which is supplied by springs. It has never gone dry, although he has watered

as many as 200 head of cattle. He has been very successful in his work, and enjoys the friendship and esteem of all who know him.

Mr. Tibbets was united in marriage, in this county, with Augusta Swanson, who was born in Moline, Illinois, in 1855, and came west with her parents. Her father is deceased, and her mother resides in Colorado. Mr. and Mrs. Tibbets have five children: Earl T., who is at home; Lillian, who attends school at Altamont, and will graduate in 1901, after which she will probably teach school; Nellie, who attends the County High School at Altamont; and Jewell and Roy, who are at home. Mr. Tibbets lives in School District No. 41, and is treasurer of the school board. He is a Republican in politics, and, religiously, is a Baptist. He and his wife are members of the Sons and Daughters of Justice.



MILTON M. ROUSH is a member of the firm of W. Roush Sons, which does an extensive hardware and tinning business in the city of Parsons, Kansas, and its vicinity. He is one of its most enterprising citizens, and takes a deep interest in the welfare and growth of the city, where he has been located since 1880. Milton M. Roush was born November 25, 1862, and is a son of William Roush, and a grandson of Morehart and Elizabeth Roush.

His grandparents had 13 children, as follows: George, a resident of Michigan, who was born February 5, 1825; John, who was born June 29, 1827, and keeps a tinshop at Lima, Ohio; Joseph, who was born March 6, 1829, and is a farmer and a hub and spoke manufacturer, of Macon, Georgia; William, the father of Milton H.; Catherine (Cope-

land), who was born July 27, 1834, and lives at Lima, Ohio; Henry, who was born July 16, 1836, and is a farmer and pension attorney at Siam, Iowa; Franklin, born October 1, 1838, and Philip, born December 26, 1840, who live near Lima, Ohio; Jacob, who was born March 18, 1845, and is a stationary engineer, of Dayton, Ohio; Theodore, who was born January 18, 1847, and is in Lima, Ohio; Jane (Boose), born December 4, 1848, and Emma (Roberts), born May 7, 1850, who live near Lima, Ohio; and Ephraim, who was born March 6, 1852, and runs a dairy farm near Lima, Ohio.

William Roush was born February 26, 1831, in Pennsylvania, and went to Wisconsin when a young man, and was at one time a rafter on the Wisconsin river. He located in Kansas in 1868, and engaged in the hardware business at Osage Mission, where he remained until 1878, when he moved to Burlington, Kansas, and in 1880 established the business now conducted by his sons in Parsons, Kansas, and served as alderman from the Third Ward. He was a stanch Republican, in politics. He died in June, 1899, at the age of sixty-six years. He was united in marriage, in Wisconsin, with Sarah A. Osman, who was born in that state, March 6, 1833, and still lives in Parsons, Kansas. They became parents of 10 children, as follows: William H., Jr.; Joseph Franklin; Andrew Jackson; Mary Elizabeth; Luella Jane; Milton M.; Ulysses Grant; Edmond Davis; Emma Elnora; and Ida May. William H., Jr., was born January 8, 1857, and is now in the restaurant business at Shawnee, Oklahoma. Joseph Franklin, born September 7, 1853, was killed on the railroad at St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1893. Andrew Jackson, born August 25, 1855, runs a tinshop at Tipton, Georgia. Mary Elizabeth (Ream), born September 10, 1858, resides in

Labette county, Kansas. Luella Jane (Patterson), born March 4, 1861, also lives in Parsons. Ulysses Grant, a barber of Parsons, was born October 15, 1865. Edmond Davis, born April 6, 1867, married Nellie Chapin, of Erie, Neosho county, and has two sons, Carl M. and Emil J. Emma Elnora (Rorschach), born November 30, 1869, lives at Shawnee, Oklahoma. Ida May (McBirney), born October 20, 1877, is a resident of Carthage, Missouri. William Roush was a Mason and a Knight Templar. He enlisted during the Civil War in the 44th Reg., Wis. Vol. Inf., and served three years. He was a member of the local post of the G. A. R., and held many of the offices.

Milton M. Roush was virtually reared in Kansas, and was located on a farm near Burlington. He accompanied his father to Parsons in 1880, and the tinning business was established one year later, in the building now occupied by Bartlett & Company. They removed to the building opposite their present one on Johnson avenue, in 1883 or 1884, and continued there until 1896, when they again changed their location to No. 1827 Johnson avenue. A building 100 by 25 feet in dimensions accommodates their stock, 100 square feet being now devoted to hardware,—a line of which they began to carry in 1883. In addition to the members of the firm, M. M. and E. D. Roush, five men are employed, and more than that number are sometimes required. They do all kinds of tin roofing and have a very extensive and profitable business.

In 1885 Milton M. Roush was united in marriage with Addie B. Gardner, who was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1866, and is a daughter of Carlyle D. Gardner. When three years old she was taken to Kansas, and was living in Neosho county at the time of her



marriage. This union resulted in two children: Guy, aged fourteen years; and Nina Florence, aged eleven years. Fraternally, Mr. Roush is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; Modern Woodmen of America; and Knights of the Maccabees. His brother, Edmond Davis Roush, is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of the Maccabees. In politics, Milton M. Roush is a Republican, and was alderman from the Third Ward,—his term expired in April, 1899. In religious attachments, he and the other members of the family are members of the Christian church. Mr. Roush has a beautiful new home at No. 1618 Crawford avenue.

A portrait of William Roush is presented on another page in connection with this sketch.

**N**ELSON E. ALLEN, a partner in the Parsons Lumber Company, is one of the most enterprising and prosperous business men of Parsons, Kansas.

Mr. Allen is a direct descendant of the famous Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary fame. His parents, William D. and Eleanor (Thompson) Allen, were born in the Empire State,—his father, in 1826, and his mother, in 1834. They are still living, and reside on a farm near Oswego, Kansas. Eight children were born to this worthy couple, as follows: E. C., who is a traveling salesman, of Denver, Colorado; F. D., who carries on a general merchandise business at Baldwin, Kansas; F. A., a traveling man, of Denver; C. W., who, at the age of twenty-seven years, was killed in the mines, at Webb City, Missouri; Celia (Cloud), residing near Oswego, Kansas; Nelson E., the sub-

ject of this biography; L. J., a home missionary of the Presbyterian church, now located at Colby, Kansas; and Ella, wife of Charles Perkins, residing near Oswego, Kansas.

Nelson E. Allen was born in February, 1862, in Livingston county, New York, which was also the birthplace of his father. When he was but two years old, his parents went west, to Lyon county, Kansas, and settled at Waushara, where they remained ten years. When he was twelve years old, the family removed to Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas, and young Nelson received his mental training in the public schools of that place. His first work was performed in the grocery store of Allen Brothers, of Chetopa, who then did business at the present stand of White & Bates, and were pioneer business men of that town.

Mr. Allen continued to follow the grocery business until 1882, and then accepted a position as clerk at McCreery's lumber yard at Parsons, which he held two years. During the "boom" of Western Kansas, he spent four years in Scott and Hamilton counties, the first year, with F. P. Dicus & Company, lumbermen, and about an equal length of time as a partner in the general merchandise and banking house of Millikin & Brandt, where he acted as cashier. Messrs. Millikin and Brandt were both attorneys and pioneer settlers of Labette county; both died several years later, of consumption. Mr. Allen also served two years as cashier of the Kendall State Bank.

Returning to Labette county, in 1893, Mr. Allen had charge of the lumber business of Clark & Bates, at Chetopa, for three years, and then became manager for the same company, at Parsons. He retained the latter position until the spring of 1900, when the present company, which includes C. K. Leinbach as a partner, was formed. The Parsons Lum-

ber Company is undoubtedly one of the most flourishing lumber companies in Parsons. It carries a full line of building materials, brick, lime, cement, house furnishing materials, and also yellow and white pine, cypress, redwood and cedar shingles. It purchases material from, perhaps, 20 different firms,—the greater part of its sash and doors coming from Kansas City and St. Louis. Its extensive lumber yards cover a ground space of 162 by 150 feet, and have ample shed-room for contractor's supplies, etc., which they also handle.

The office of the company is a fine building and is the same formerly used by William Maxwell, now deceased, who was a pioneer lumberman of Parsons, and whose son, the present William Maxwell, is the efficient and accommodating bookkeeper for the company. From two to three workmen are kept constantly employed about the yards, as the company enjoys, undoubtedly, a larger patronage than any other lumber firm in the city. Besides being a member of this firm, Mr. Allen is also the junior member of the firm of Gilkerson & Allen, lumber dealers of Welch, Indian Territory.

Mr. Allen owns a fine modern residence at No. 1300 Corning avenue. In 1896 he was united in marriage with Nellie Lough, daughter of J. A. Lough. Mrs. Allen comes of a Canadian family, who were among the early settlers of Labette county. Her father is deceased, while the remainder of the family reside in Labette county, some in Altamont, and some in Chetopa. One daughter, Ruth, blesses the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allen. Mr. Allen favors the Presbyterian faith, while his wife was reared within the folds of the M. E. church. In political action, Mr. Allen is a supporter of Republican principles. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the

Modern Woodmen of America. Starting out as a poor boy, his life has been a steady advance up to the present time. The manly qualities of self reliance and perseverance have enabled him to accomplish what he has, and he now occupies a recognized position as one of the leading citizens of Parsons.



SAUNDERS A. BIGGS, a prominent real estate dealer of Parsons, Kansas, in whose development he has aided materially in many ways, has excellent family connections. On his father's side he is a scion of a well known New York family, of English extraction. On his mother's side, he is of German and Scotch descent, his mother being a lineal descendant of Gen. Armstrong, of Revolutionary War fame. Saunders A. Biggs was born in New York City, December 14, 1841, and is a son of Isaac A. and Harriet A. (Nellis) Biggs, both of whom are buried in Greenwood Cemetery, New York, with two sons by their side. The father was born on Long Island, while the mother was a native of Montgomery county, New York. Of their five children composing the family, the third and fourth sons, Eugene C. R. and Aberdeen C., are deceased. Saunders A. is the eldest of the children. Isaac L., the second son, was formerly private secretary to C. K. Garrison, but is now in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, and lives in New York City. Ida A., the youngest of the children (and the only daughter), is unmarried, and has her home in New York City.

Saunders A. Biggs was educated in his native city, principally, in an Episcopal private school. He remained at home and assisted his father in the real estate business until April, 1861, when he enlisted as a private in Com-

pany B, 71st Reg., New York State Militia. He served three months under Captain (afterward Colonel) B. L. Trafford, in response to President Lincoln's call for volunteers, and was honorably discharged from service in July, 1861.

In April, 1863, Mr. Biggs was commissioned as an enrollment officer of New York State, with headquarters in New York City, which position he filled in a successful and capable manner. He subsequently reengaged with his father in the real estate business, under the firm name of Isaac A. Biggs & Son. To this work he devoted his time and talents, until June, 1876, when he came west, and located in Parsons, Kansas, July 19, 1876.

The same year, a real estate company was formed by Mr. Biggs, consisting of Angell Matthewson, Merrit Noyes and himself. This company continued to carry on a real estate, loan and abstract business, with office on Central avenue, between Forest and Belmont avenues. Mr. Biggs withdrew from the company in 1878, and engaged in general merchandising in company with A. J. Cary, under the firm name of Cary & Biggs. They continued in this line until 1881, at different locations, removing to larger quarters, as their business increased. Then, on account of too close confinement for the subject of this sketch, the firm was dissolved, by mutual consent, and Mr. Biggs became connected with the City Bank of Angell Matthewson & Company, as examiner of real estate loans. He filled that position until 1893, and resigned at that time to accept a similar position with the Interstate Mortgage & Trust Company. This he held until 1901. He then engaged in the real estate, loan, insurance and coal business, at Nos. 301 and 303 South Central avenue, his present location.

Mr. Biggs was united in marriage, December 11, 1867, at Fort Plain, New York, with Estelle L. Nellis, a daughter of George G. and Delia (Rich) Nellis, both prominent New Yorkers. Mrs. Biggs' ancestors served in the Revolutionary War. She is one of a family of several children, all of whom were reared in the Mohawk Valley, at Fort Plain, Montgomery county, New York, where all its deceased members are buried. The eldest child of her parents was Eleanor, who is deceased. She married Dr. H. M. Cronkhite, a surgeon in the United States Army. Their son, Adelbert Cronkhite, is now a captain of light artillery, and stationed at Fortress Monroe, Virginia. He is a graduate of West Point, and married a daughter of Brigadier General Pennington. Adelbert D. Nellis, her brother, served in the Union Army during the Civil war, as one of Ellsworth's Zouaves, a regiment formed between Buffalo and Albany, New York. Julia N. married William M. Burnap, of Utica, New York, and now resides in San Francisco, California. Mr. Burnap was at one time the private secretary of Roscoe Conkling. Estelle L., the wife of Mr. Biggs, was the next child in this interesting family, and was born May 24, 1847. George L., a younger brother, lives, with his family, in Kansas City, where he is general agent of the Diamond Brick Company. Minnie L., a younger sister, is the wife of Albert M. Taylor, a prominent coal dealer, of Parsons.

Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Biggs. The eldest was Eugenia Lemoine, who died in infancy, July 25, 1882. The surviving daughter is Estelle Louise, born at Parsons, Kansas, January 5, 1885, is an accomplished musician, being especially proficient as a pianist.

In politics, Mr. Biggs is a staunch Republican, and has had much to say and do in the

guidance of that party in his section. He was made a Mason at Amity Lodge, No. 323, A. F. & A. M., of New York City, and is now a member of the lodge in Parsons. The preference of the family is for the Episcopal church, of which Rev. J. J. Purcell is rector. Mr. and Mrs. Biggs were confirmed at Trinity Chapel, New York City, by Bishop Potter, shortly after their marriage, which was solemnized in December, 1867.

Mr. Biggs is, doubtless, one of the best judges of real estate values in Labette county, and surrounding counties, if not in the state of Kansas, having had many years' experience. Nearly all his life has been devoted to real estate transactions. He is largely interested in both city and county real property, having built some of the finest residences in Parsons, as well as various tenement houses. His own residence at 1703 Corning avenue is a handsome modern structure, and an ornament to the city. He is, without doubt, a leading and representative citizen of Parsons, and stands before his family and friends as a victor in the struggle, enjoying the fruits of his foresight, his toil, and his skill.



S. HOKE, senior member of the firm of Hoke Brothers, a well known milling firm of Parsons, Kansas, is one of the most progressive business men and most extensive farmers in this section of the state. He moved to Labette county from Ohio as early as 1874, when he immediately engaged in milling. The business prospered and increased until 1882, when the firm of Hoke Brothers was formed, by M. Hoke and his two sons, W. S. and A. C. Hoke, who own and control a milling plant second to none in this section of Kansas.

M. Hoke is a native of Pennsylvania, and is now a retired resident of Parsons, still owning a small interest in the milling plant. He is a miller by trade, and has devoted the best efforts of his life to this vocation. His union with Katherine Culp, also a native of Pennsylvania, resulted in the birth of two sons and three daughters, namely: W. S., the subject of this biography; A. C., the junior member of the firm; Anna (Wiggins), the widow of a railroad engineer, who has four children; Ella (Braunsdorf), wife of a commercial traveler; and Marian, who still resides at home, in the beautiful and substantial family residence in Parsons.

A. C. Hoke, the junior member of the firm, was born in 1866. He is married, and has built a handsome residence in Parsons. Like his brother, he learned the milling business from his father, and his assistance is invaluable in their numerous business enterprises.

W. S. Hoke was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, in October, 1857. He attended the common schools of his native state, and from early boyhood found employment in his father's mill. In time, under the supervision of his beloved parent, he became thoroughly familiar with every detail and branch of the milling business, to which his life has been devoted. He was united in marriage with Mollie E. Barnard, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Barnard, of Illinois, both of whom are deceased. Mrs. Hoke has two brothers, C. B. Barnard, of Oklahoma; and W. N. Barnard, of Colorado,—both successful business men. Mr. and Mrs. Hoke have a palatial residence in North Parsons, and are favorites in both social and religious circles. They are regular attendants at the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally, Mr. Hoke affiliates with the A. O.

U. W. organization, while Mrs. Hoke is an esteemed member of the Degree of Honor.

The firm of Hoke Brothers was formed in 1882, and has a capital stock of \$30,000. Their large plant is located in the northern part of the city of Parsons, and covers about two acres of ground,—employing from ten to fifteen men. The present buildings were erected in 1873, and 1874. They consist of a flour mill, feed mill and warehouse and elevator. Later, the present fine office building was added. The plant is operated by steam, the power being furnished by a 60-horse-power engine and boiler. Soft-wheat flour in several grades is manufactured,—the finest being the Blue Ribbon, White Loaf, and Champion,—and a full line of feed stuffs is also turned out. The business has prospered and increased, until the local grain supply is inadequate for the present capacity of the mills, which have been proportionately enlarged, and a great amount of grain is purchased outside.

In addition to the workmen within the mills, a number of traveling salesmen are constantly employed, and the firm advertises largely. The products are sold all over Southern Kansas, besides a heavy local patronage. The firm of Hoke Brothers has extensive interests entirely separate from their milling business. They own large tracts of land in different parts of Labette county,—principally, in Liberty and Walton townships,—which they farm on a large scale. In addition to a large tract in North township, recently sold by them, they still own about 800 acres and lease about 1,000 acres, raising from ten to twenty thousand bushels of wheat annually. Several foremen and about 20 workmen perform all the manual labor required in raising this grain, which has netted the proprietors quite a neat sum during the past year, which has been an excep-

tionally good one for business. Stock is also raised extensively.

W. S. Hoke bears an excellent reputation for good, honest business methods, and prides himself on the general success which has attended his efforts. He entertains a pronounced belief in the principles of the Republican party, but has been kept too busy in attending to his milling business to accept any office.



B. PRICE, one of Labette county's successful farmers, has been a resident of this county since 1872, and is located in section 18, township 33, range 18, in Mound Valley township. He has been a very industrious man, and success has attended his efforts. He represents the highest type of a citizen, and takes an earnest interest in all that relates to the welfare of his township and county. He was born in Lawrence county, Missouri, May 7, 1846, and is a son of David and Catherine (Moyer) Price.

David Price was reared in Indiana and Ohio, and died in 1853. His wife was born in Pennsylvania,—her family having come from Germany,—and she received her education in the schools of Ohio and Indiana. She died in Phelps county, Missouri, in 1894, at the age of eighty-four years. They were parents of eight children, four of whom arrived at maturity, namely: Melissa (Decker), of Fayetteville, Arkansas; Janette (Taylor), of Guthrie, Oklahoma; Elizabeth (Furray), of Phelps county, Missouri; and H. B.

H. B. Price moved with his parents to several different places, and was reared in Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. He was married, February 1, 1872, and on February 7th left Illinois with a team of horses,—his wife and



her sister having started two days previously. He crossed the Mississippi River, on the ice, at St. Louis, and then continued on through Missouri to Kansas. He located in Labette county in the spring of 1872, and located on railroad land in section 21, Labette township, along with two of his brothers-in-law. He partly improved his claim, and then sold it to the others of the party, and removed to Mound Valley township, where he acquired title to 80 acres in the southwest quarter of section 25, township 32, range 18. He continued on this farm for four years and then moved to his present home farm in section 18, township 33, range 18, which he bought from A. Fanning. It had been preempted by Mr. Goddard. Fifty acres of the land were broken, and a house was located on the northeast corner of the farm. This was later torn down, and the oak lumber was used in the construction of the comfortable barn, 32 by 42 feet in dimensions, which is located on the place. There was also a growing crop of wheat, and hedges had been set out, as well as the nucleus of an orchard, which has since been developed into an orchard of six acres. Nine acres are devoted to orchard, house and yards, and the remainder of the land is cultivated and is well fenced and improved. In 1898 he purchased an additional tract of 160 acres in section 7, township 33, range 18, which is fenced and cross-fenced. This property is free from incumbrance, and its owner has a clear title to it. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and favors Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He buys some stock, but mainly breeds and feeds, having a large pasture area.

Mr. Price was united in marriage with Sarah J. Mahar, who was reared in Morgan county, Ohio, and is now forty-seven years of age. This union resulted in the following off-

spring: Luella; Edna; Irene; Annie; Lena; Mary; Nina; Ira; Ralph; Calvin, who is with the Western Union Telegraph Company at Beaumont, Texas; Harvey, who is ranching near Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Catherine, who died at the age of four years. In politics, Mr. Price was a Republican until the organization of the Alliance, and at the present time is a Prohibitionist. He lives in School District No. 75. In the early days, he was a member of Anti-Horsethief Association. He attends the United Brethren church at Elmwood.



H. KILE, deceased. This gentleman was for many years one of the foremost farmers living in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas. He resided in the southeast quarter of section 31, township 32, range 18,—the farm which his wife has managed since his death. Mr. Kile was born on the south branch of the Potomac River, in Virginia, in 1834. He came of a well known family of that state, his father having lived there a number of years. One sister lives in Illinois at the present writing, and five of his brothers served in the War of the Rebellion.

Mr. Kile followed farming in his native state for a number of years, and in April, 1872, moved to Labette county, Kansas, his wife and family following him in November of that year. Here he took up the farm on which his wife now resides. This was partly improved; about 60 acres of the land had been broken, and wheat had been planted. Some hedge had been set out, and maple trees along the driveway, now large, were at that time small bushes. Twenty-five peach trees had been set out, and the farm now yields abundant







EMIL RORSCHACH, JR.



MRS. CAROLINE D. RORSCHACH.

fruit. The quarter-section of land is finely improved, and a large house and outbuildings add greatly to the general appearance of the place, making it one of the most attractive and substantial farms in the county. Mr. Kile carried on general farming until his death, which occurred in February, 1890. He was a man of great thrift and energy, and took much pride in making his farm one of the finest in his section. He was an active and loyal citizen, giving his assistance to all public enterprises which were for the good of the community, and his death was deeply mourned by all.

Mr. Kile was united in marriage with Rebecca J. Haigler, who was born in Pendleton county, West Virginia, in 1834. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Haigler, who had three boys and four girls born to them. The youngest son, Elijah M., lived for many years in Ohio, and died in Labette county in 1900, aged seventy-three years. James W. and John M. moved to Iowa, and died there. Lucinda H. (Judy) died in Illinois. Joanna and Sophia, twins, died in Virginia. Lavina became Mrs. Terwilleger. Mrs. Kile's father, John Haigler, was born March 30, 1791, and died in Labette county, after a residence of eighteen months, March 24, 1875. Her mother, Phoebe (Skidmore) Haigler, was born November 27, 1798, and died in Virginia, January 10, 1873. This worthy couple were married in October, 1822.

Mr. and Mrs. Kile are the parents of four children, namely: John H., who attends school at Baldwin; Delia Virginia (Titsworth), who lives at home, and has one daughter,—Carrie Hazel; William C., who married a daughter of W. H. Eakins, and is at home; and Charles Lee, who married Miss Dingfelder, and lives one mile from the old homestead.

Mr. Kile was a staunch Democrat in politics. Both he and his wife were members of a mutual benefit association. In religious views, Mr. Kile was a Methodist. His wife was a member of the United Brethren church, although she recently joined the Methodist church at Mound Valley, with a son and daughter. Mrs. Kile has successfully managed her husband's farm, with the assistance of her son, and keeps everything in good condition. She is well known in the vicinity for her womanly qualities, and many good deeds.

**F**MIL RORSCHACH, Sr., who was for many years a prominent farmer of North township, Labette county, Kansas, is now living in retirement in the city of Parsons. He is a man of pleasing personality, and has scores of friends in the county.

Mr. Rorschach was born in Switzerland, in 1836, and attended the schools of his native country until he was twenty years of age, after which he came to America. He landed in New York in January, 1857, having crossed the ocean from le Havre, France, on a sailing vessel, which consumed thirty-seven days in making the voyage. After landing in New York, he spent about six weeks in that city, and then sojourned in Philadelphia for a short time. He afterward located in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with but 25 cents in his pockets. The following winter he worked for his board, and then took up the trade of a carpenter, which he followed in that city for five years. In the fall of 1861, he went to Sandusky county, Ohio, and lived on a farm near Fremont. In 1862, he enlisted in Company A, 72d Reg., Ohio-Vol. Inf., which was taken into the 16th

Army Corps of the Army of the West. He was taken prisoner June 11, 1864, at Gun-town, Mississippi, and was sent to Andersonville prison, where he was incarcerated seven months; he was also subsequently imprisoned at other places. Finally, in February, 1865, he was exchanged at Savannah, Georgia, and immediately returned home. He was incapacitated for work for several years, by his trying experiences, which had impaired his health. In 1869, he journeyed by rail to Cameron, Missouri, where he bought a team which he drove to Labette county, Kansas. He took up a claim in section 5, North township, and resided on that farm until November, 1898, when he moved to Parsons, subsequently disposing of his farm. He was very successful as a farmer and laid by a handsome competency. He is independent in politics, and served on the school board for a period of sixteen years, a part of the time as secretary of the board, and a part of the time as treasurer. He is a member of Antietam Post, No. 64, G. A. R.

Mr. Rorschach was united in marriage, in 1860, with Caroline Dorley, a native of Germany, and they are the parents of 12 children, as follows: Mary (Walker), who resides in North township; Emil, Jr., of Shawnee, Oklahoma; Carrie (Walker), of Sedalia, Missouri; Harry, a resident of Shawnee, Oklahoma; Karl, a resident of Chanute, Kansas; Frank and Otto, twins; Walter, a resident of South McAlester, Indian Territory; Werner, a resident of Joplin, Missouri; Arnold and Herman, residents of Parsons, Kansas; and William, who is attending school. This large family has never known serious sickness, nor has any member of it ever been crippled. Two of the sons, Frank and Otto, twins, entered the United States Navy, at

Washington, District of Columbia, in 1887, and have continued in the service since. Both have been promoted from time to time. At present, Frank is chief gunner of the naval magazines near Norfolk, Virginia, where he has been stationed since the Spanish-American War. Otto is chief electrician on the Marietta, now cruising in Chinese waters. During the Spanish-American War, both served on the Puritan, and Frank had the distinction of firing the shot from the Puritan which exploded the magazines at Fort Matanzas.

The publishers of this work are pleased to be able to state that portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Rorschach accompany this sketch.



RS. ELIZA A. WEST, widow of the late E. H. West, is a native of Marshall, Michigan, and was born in 1840. She is a daughter of Isaac B. and Susan (Bentley) Woodcock. Since her husband's death, she has successfully managed her farm, which is in section 20, township 33, range 18, in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas.

Isaac B. Woodcock spent most of his life near Otego, New York, but his declining years were spent in the home of his daughter. Mrs. Woodcock was a native of England, and came to America when she was fourteen years old. She died in Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Woodcock were the parents of five children, namely: Eliza A., the subject of this sketch; D. B., who is engaged in the livery business in Illinois; R. A. (Sweet), who lives in Carson City, Michigan; M. J. (Knickerbocker), of the same place; and S. M. (Duffy), whose husband is a real estate dealer in California. Mr. Woodcock followed the occupation of a farmer.

E. H. West, deceased, who was the husband of our subject, was born in New Hampshire in 1830. When he was two years old, his parents moved to the eastern part of New York, and later, to the southern part of Michigan. Mr. West was reared in New York and in Michigan. He had two brothers and three sisters, viz.: Sarah (McKnight), of Michigan; Walter, who lives in Minnesota; Mary, deceased; Lucinda (Simpson), who died during the Civil war; and Seth, whose home is in Michigan. Mr. West was united in marriage with Eliza A. Woodcock, the subject of this sketch. They lived on a farm in Michigan, until their removal to Kansas. March 23, 1870, they went by rail to Fort Scott, Kansas, having decided to try their fortune in Kansas,—Mr. West had looked over that country some time before. They bought the present home farm in Mound Valley township, from Mr. Whitesell. Mr. Ross and Mr. Wells were then the only near neighbors. There were no improvements on the place except a log house which stood near the creek. The present substantial house was built in the fall of 1870,—the lumber being hauled from Carthage and Columbus, and some of it from the mill at Oswego. Mrs. West also bought another quarter-section of land, which is now owned by her son, E. B. West. Mr. West departed this life in 1876, and his death was sincerely mourned by all, as he was a loyal and useful citizen.

Since her husband's death Mrs. West has had the sole management of the farm, and has made many valuable improvements on the place. She has a good orchard, the trees of which she planted. The barns and outbuildings are all large and commodious, and everything about the place is kept in excellent condition. Mrs. West has four children, namely: Mrs. Thomp-

son, of Pierce City, Missouri; E. B., who is engaged in the implement business in Mound Valley; F. E., who lives on the farm with his mother; and H. E., superintendent of the telephone offices at Pittsburg, Kansas.

Mr. West was a Republican in politics, and was a very well informed man. Mrs. West is a member of the Methodist church. She is a kind and charitable neighbor, and has many estimable qualities which make her warmly regarded by all.

---

**J**OHNN BENNETT is a prominent farmer of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, and is located on the northwest quarter of section 32, township 34, range 19, where he possesses a very valuable piece of farming property. He was born in North Wales in 1834, and is a son of John and Jane (Owen) Bennett.

John Bennett, Sr., was born and married in North Wales. He was a farmer by occupation and lived to reach the ripe old age of eighty-eight years. His union with Jane Owen resulted in the birth of the following children: John; Elizabeth; Edward; Jane; Richard; Thomas; Ann; William; Evan; and Mary. Mrs. Bennett was also born in North Wales and died at the age of sixty-six years.

John Bennett, the subject of this sketch, lived in his native country until 1867, when he came to the United States, accompanied by his brother, Edward. After landing at Castle Garden, New York City, they traveled west to Putnam county, Ohio, where John purchased a farm, which he still owns. He made Ohio his home until he settled in Kansas, having followed railroading for twenty years during his early life. Mr. Bennett worked in England

under the first railroad secretary in the world, Braithwaite Poole, on the Burton Head and Hoylake Railway. Mr. Poole was secretary of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway, said to be the first railroad operated in the history of steam locomotion. He arrived in Kansas in March, 1888, and located on his present farm in Elm Grove township, Labette county,—the northwest quarter of section 32, township 34, range 19. He carries on general farming, although he rents a part of his land. In politics, he is a Republican, having cast his first presidential vote for General Grant. He served as township trustee in Putnam county, Ohio, for a period of twelve years. An industrious man, of frugal habits, his affairs are in a very prosperous condition. He is possessed of many excellent traits of character and has many friends in the township.

Mr. Bennett was first married to Ann Garner, who was born in North Wales in 1824, and died in 1891, leaving one daughter, Ann Jane, whose union with Albert Reece resulted in the birth of three children: Mabel, Anna M. and Mary. Mr. Bennett's present wife was Mrs. Mary C. (Morris) Garner, who was born in New York State in 1853, and has one son, J. R. Garner. Mrs. Bennett is a member of the Presbyterian church.



W. LEAP, a prominent stock man and extensive land owner of Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the early settlers of the county, having located here in 1867. He lives in the southeast quarter of section 25, township 34, range 20, and owns 400 acres of highly cultivated land. He was born in Jefferson county, Indiana, in 1838, and is :

son of Samuel and Margaret (McCauly) Leap.

Samuel Leap was a native of West Virginia, and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. His wife, who was born in Virginia, died in Iowa, in 1852, having removed to Davis county, in that state, in 1850. Two of their daughters are deceased; and Sanford, the brother of G. W., is living in San Antonio, Texas.

G. W. Leap, the subject of this sketch, was reared and educated in Indiana, and remained at home until he became of age. On October 1, 1867, he removed to Labette county, Kansas. He came to Oswego by way of Kansas City, in company with Mr. Butterworth and family,—thus making a party of five or six people. Mr. Leap took a claim in Hackberry township, and has resided on this land ever since. He now owns a quarter-section directly south, across the road,—the northeast quarter of section 36; and 80 acres adjoining in Richland township, making a total of 400 acres of fine farming land. When he first located in Kansas, he was a poor man, and his success has been due entirely to his own efforts. He has made many fine improvements on his farm, and has never had a desire to remove from the county. Upon first locating on his home farm he built a log cabin in the field, which he occupied for some time. His present frame house was completed in 1875, and the barn was finished in 1881. The nearest trading points in early days were Lawrence, Kansas City and places in Missouri. Turkey Creek flows through his land, and there is a good well in the pasture, and also a windmill, which afford a fine supply of water. A handsome hedge was set out by Mr. Leap, and he has about five acres of fruit. Mr. Leap often feeds 100, or more, cattle, and raises a high grade of



stock. He carries on general farming in addition to stock raising. He is thoroughly informed on all matters pertaining to agriculture and is considered one of the best farmers in the county.

Mr. Leap was married, in Labette county, in 1868, to Matilda Quinby, who was born in Laporte, Indiana. She accompanied her two brothers to Labette county. Mrs. Quinby, aged ninety-two years,—the mother of Mrs. Leap,—resides with her daughter. Mr. Leap and his wife have five sons and one daughter, namely: Arthur, who works on the Santa Fe road, and lives at Newton; Ernest, who lives a mile and a half from his father, and who is married to Della Holman, and has three children,—Leah, Harold and Glenn; Walter, who is a farmer in Wyoming; Fred, who is mining in Alaska; Quinby; and Alice, who is at home.

Mr. Leap is a Democrat in politics, and has served several terms as treasurer of the township. He has been a member of the school board of District No. 70. Fraternally, he is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge, of Chepoka. Mr. Leap is a public-spirited man, and takes an active interest in all local affairs.



F. PRESTON, a well known livery man located in Edna, Labette county, Kansas, has been a resident of the county since 1881. He was born in Monroe county, New York, in 1850. His father was J. Preston, also a native of that state.

J. Preston was a farmer by occupation, and married Sarah Eldridge, who was also a native of New York. This union resulted in the birth of the following children: Frank; C. F.,

the subject of this sketch; Emma and Nelson, deceased; William, who is a music teacher at Edna, Kansas; Josephine; Mary; and Henry.

C. F. Preston was reared in his native state, where he attended the common schools of Monroe county. He spent a good deal of his time on the water, while young, and in 1872 removed to Michigan, where he was engaged in the lumber business for a period of eight years. In 1881 Mr. Preston moved to Edna, Kansas, where he was engaged in the stock business until 1888, when he built the livery stable which he now conducts. He has carried on this business ever since, and is well known in Elm Grove township and the vicinity. Mr. Preston is a thorough business man, and devotes all his time to his work. He has numerous patrons, and to these he gives prompt and ready attention. He has a number of good horses, and does a large business.

Mr. Preston first married Mary Dennison, of Coldwater, Michigan. She died, leaving one son, Arley H. Mr. Preston wedded, as his second wife, Mrs. Katie Bennett, who is a native of Kentucky, where she was born in 1858. They have reared the following children, namely: Earl; Oscar; Ernest; and Jessie. Mr. Preston belongs to Edna Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 345; and also to the M. W. of A., Edna Lodge, No. 1636. He is a member of the Baptist church. Mr. Preston is a loyal and upright citizen, and is highly respected as such.



RS. MARY M. (MISER) WHITE, an old and highly respected resident of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Williams county, Ohio, in January, 1849.

Mrs. White is a daughter of John Miser,

who was born in Pennsylvania, and followed farming throughout his entire life. He married Mary Feters, who was born in Ohio, and they reared the following children: Emily and Sarah, deceased; Henry; John, deceased; Mary M., the subject of this sketch; and Thomas and Jacob, who are engaged in farming.

Mary M. Miser was an infant when her father located in Iowa, and she lived there for seven years. The following two years were spent in Illinois, after which she returned to Ohio, where she resided until she came to Kansas. She located in Labette county with her father, in 1871. She was joined in matrimony with H. F. White, who is now deceased.

H. F. White was born in Illinois in 1848, and became a farmer. He came to Kansas in 1866, and located in Montana township, Labette county, on the farm now owned by Mrs. White. He resided upon this until his death, in 1890. He was a very successful business man, and one who commanded the respect of every one with whom he was acquainted. He was a Republican in politics, and served as trustee of Montana township for two terms. Mr. and Mrs. White became parents of the following children: Walter, who conducts the affairs of the farm for his mother, and who married Ada Clark, and has one daughter, Lillian M.; Nora; and Ruhema. Mrs. White has been a resident of the community for more than thirty years, and has many friends.



F. LIVESAY, a prominent and influential farmer of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, is located in the southwest quarter of section 14, and has a well improved farm,

most of the improvements being the result of his own efforts.

Mr. Livesay was born in Pulaski county, Illinois, in 1865, and is a son of John W. Livesay. The latter was born in Washington county, Illinois, in 1833, and was a carpenter by trade. He enlisted, in 1861, in Company C, 60th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and served for three years, losing an arm while in the service. After the war he spent two years in Illinois, came to Labette county, Kansas, in 1867, and located in the southeast quarter of section 3, Montana township. He entered the claim and lived upon it until his death, in 1877. He married Lucinda Finch, who was born in Illinois in 1834, and they reared five children: Susan, deceased; Agnes, deceased; Florence (Stewart); W. F., subject of this biographical record; Thomas, who resides with his mother in Labette county; Delinda; and John H., who has just served twenty months in the Philippines in Company G, 40th Kans. Reg., U. S. Volunteers.

W. F. Livesay was brought to Labette county, Kansas, by his parents, in 1867, making the trip by wagon. He resided on his father's farm until 1888, when he bought his present property,—the southwest quarter of section 14, Montana township. He has just completed a new, two-story, eight-room house, and has his outbuildings and barns in keeping with it. He carries on general farming and is meeting with deserved success.

Mr. Livesay married Mary Wilson, who was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, in 1876, and is a daughter of A. B. Wilson, of Labette county. The latter married Anna Kammeyer, of Indiana, by whom he had the following children: Mary, wife of Mr. Livesay; Thomas, deceased; Clyde; Maggie; William; Eva; John; Albert; and Elmira. Mr. and Mrs.

Livesay have four children: James F.; Thomas V.; Lucinda B.; and Paul W. He is a Republican in politics, and served as justice of the peace one term. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

**B**ENJAMIN F. BOUTON, a prosperous farmer of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, has one of the finest and most valuable farms in his section of the county. He has been located upon it since 1883, and has built a handsome residence, and made many improvements. As a business man, he has been a success, displaying unusual shrewdness and foresight in all his transactions. Upright and thoroughly honest, he treats all with fairness, and thereby has gained the respect and friendship of all who know him. He was born in Albany county, New York, in 1840, and is a son of Erastus and Mary (Abrams) Bouton.

Erastus Bouton was born in Albany county, New York, and became a farmer. He married Mary Abrams, also a native of Albany county, New York, and they reared the following children: Joannah A.; Benjamin F.; James; David S.; Theodore O.; Augusta; Mary; Charles; and Martha.

B. F. Bouton resided in his native county until he reached the age of twenty-six years, when with his wife he moved to Marshall county, Illinois, in 1866. After working out for six years, previous to his marriage, he purchased 80 acres of land, and on this resided for a period of fifteen years. He then came to Labette county, Kansas, in the spring of 1883, and located on his present farm, which consists of the north half of section 21, the southwest quarter of section 16, and the west

half of the southeast quarter of section 16, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township. In 1892 he built his present handsome and commodious home, which is of two stories, and contains 14 rooms. He carries on general farming and stock raising, having 320 acres devoted to raising grain, and 10 acres of orchard. He employs modern methods in farming, and has met with unusual success.

While a resident of Albany county, New York, he was united in marital bonds with Harriet Zelig, who was born in that county in 1845. They have one daughter, Alice, who is the wife of Charles Smith. Mrs. Smith has a son, Leslie Shoevelt, by her former husband, Edward Shoevelt. In politics, the subject of this sketch is a Republican, and in religious belief he is a Methodist.

---

**D**A. JONES, a veteran of the Civil War, is a prominent resident of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, where he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits for many years.

Mr. Jones was born in Williamson county, Illinois, in 1837, and is a son of John Jones. The latter was born in North Carolina, and was a farmer by occupation. He was united in marriage with Keturah Mosely, who was born in Tennessee, and they reared six children, as follows: Lena; D. A.; John; Jonathan; Levi; and Sarah.

D. A. Jones lived in his native county until 1861, when he enlisted, in November, in Company F, 49th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. He fought in the battles of Fort Donelson and Pittsburg Landing; he took part in the Oxford expedition; was engaged at Hollow Springs; and participated in the Red River campaign,

—fighting for forty-one consecutive days. He followed Price to Kansas. He was honorably discharged in January, 1865, at Springfield, Illinois, and thence went to Washington county, Illinois, where he was engaged in farming for one year. He went from Illinois to St. Louis, by wagon, then to Kansas City, by boat, and thence to Labette county, Kansas, by wagon,—arriving at his destination in April, 1868; the trip consumed seventeen days. Mr. Jones located on his present farm in the northwest quarter of section 14, and in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 15, Montana township; he entered his claim at Humboldt, Kansas. He has made all the improvements upon his place, and is successfully engaged in general farming.

Mr. Jones was joined in wedlock with Martha A. Stovalle, who was born in Kentucky, in 1843, and they were the parents of the following children: Elihu; John; Sherman, deceased; Frank; Nicholas; Mary; Drury; and William. In politics Mr. Jones is a Republican, and has served as trustee of Montana township for six years. He has also served on the school board for about twenty-five years, and as justice of the peace for fifteen years. He was county commissioner six years,—from 1884 to 1890. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.



RS. AGNES A. BUTTS, widow of the late J. F. Butts, who died in 1896, resides on a large farm in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, in section 21, township 32, range 18. Mr. and Mrs. Butts located in this county April 2, 1871.

J. F. Butts, deceased, the husband of the subject hereof, was born April 20, 1837, in

Shelby county, Ohio, and came of an old Ohio family. The deed to the home farm in Ohio was signed by President Andrew Jackson. One brother, J. A. Butts, has a farm near Mrs. Butts' place, and lives in Mound Valley. George Butts lives in Darke county, Ohio. The children were all reared on the old homestead in Ohio, and J. F. Butts remained in that state until he located in Kansas. He had a good common-school education, and when a young man followed the occupation of a miller and farmer.

April 2, 1871, J. F. Butts removed to Labette county, and in Mound Valley township bought a claim in section 21, township 32, range 18, from Thad McGinnis. Mr. McGinnis had broken five acres of the land and had built a claim-house. Mr. Butts brought \$3,000 with him from Ohio, and built a large frame house after buying his farm. This house was destroyed by fire in 1900, and Mrs. Butts had the present six-room house erected. She built the barn and outbuildings in 1897. Mr. Butts brought maple seeds from the woods, which he planted on the place, and he also planted a fine orchard. He bought 80 acres of land, south, across the road, and the farm now contains 240 acres of finely improved land. There are about 15 acres of timber along Big Hill Creek, which flows through the land. All of the many valuable improvements on the farm have been made by Mr. and Mrs. Butts, and the tract is one of the most valuable in the county. A high grade of stock is raised, and general farming is carried on. Mr. Butts died May 31, 1896, and his death was sincerely mourned by all, as he was a kind neighbor and public-spirited man. Since his death, Mrs. Butts has managed the farm in a manner which would do credit to anyone, and has been very successful.





BENJAMIN D. ROBERTS.



Agnes A. (Mayginness) Butts, the subject of this sketch, was born in Madison county, Ohio, March 14, 1836. She is a daughter of A. Mayginness, who was of Scotch-Irish descent, and an early settler of Ohio. He was an elder in the church at Sidney for a number of years, and the family were Presbyterians. Mr. and Mrs. Mayginness were the parents of 12 children. Francis M., familiarly called "Uncle Doc," lives in Missouri on a farm, and was in the Civil War. The subject of this sketch married Mr. Butts while living in Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Butts' union was blessed by the birth of nine children, namely: Effie and Walker, deceased; Ulysses, who married Ida Farmer, lives near his mother, and has four children,—Otis, Earl, Lois and Joel; Ella, who married a Mr. Shafer, who teaches school in Oklahoma, and has four children,—John Neice, Hugh Cecil, Alta G. and Agnes; Bertha and Jennie, deceased; John, who is at home on the farm; Minnie (Robinson), of Osage township, who has one daughter,—Hazel; and Rosa (Moore), who lives six miles northeast of our subject, and has one child,—Opal May.

Mr. Butts was a Republican in politics. He was a member of the school board,—Excelsior District, No. 88. The family attend the Christian church.

**B**ENJAMIN D. ROBERTS, a pioneer settler of Labette county, Kansas, lives in Richland township, in section 9, township 34, range 21. He was born in Warren county, Ohio, in 1830, and is a son of J. T. Roberts.

J. T. Roberts was born in 1800, in Pennsylvania, where he lived some years, and followed the trade of a cabinetmaker. He died

in 1889, in Ohio, whither he had removed when a boy. His wife died in 1846. They had the following children: One who died in infancy; Adolphus D., a retired carpenter, who lives in Chicago, Illinois; E. Jane, who lives in Ohio; C. D., deceased; Benjamin D.; M. A., the wife of A. Sutton, who lives in Ohio; E. D., who also lives in Ohio; M. F., deceased; and John A. G., who for years has been cashier of the Adams Express Company in Chicago.

Benjamin D. Roberts remained at home until he reached the age of nineteen years. He learned the trade of a carpenter, and followed this occupation until he came to Kansas. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the 23d Reg., Ky. Vol. Inf., and after one year's service was discharged on account of disability. He reenlisted, in January, 1864, in the 1st Kentucky Independent Light Artillery, and served until the close of the war. In 1868 Mr. Roberts removed to Kansas, and took up a claim in Richland township, Labette county, in sections 9 and 16, township 34, range 21. He gradually added to this until he owned 640 acres of finely improved land. In 1892 he sold three quarter-sections, and has fitted up homes for his children. He is at present living with his son, J. Q. Roberts, who will inherit the home when his father dies. When Mr. Roberts left Ohio, he had about \$600 in money, but this was quickly used for payments on the claim which he bought, and for general expenses. He well remembers the time when he was obliged to spend his last 50 cents for quinine,—money being scarce and sickness threatening. Mr. Roberts set out over seven miles of hedge, and also fruit and shade trees. He has built three houses on the section, and has lived in two of them at different times.

Mr. Roberts was united in marriage with Mary A. Southern, in Ohio, in 1852. She was born in England, and died in 1884, having had four children, namely: M. F.; J. Q.; B. F.; and A. E. M. F. died in infancy; J. Q. married Sarah Tibbetts, and has three children,—Maud, Alma and Benjamin; and B. F. and A. E., twins, are engaged in the grain business in Nebraska. All of the children were born in Ohio. Mr. Roberts has always voted the straight Republican ticket. He was township treasurer for seven years, and was treasurer of the school board, District No. 25, for twenty years. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post, of Chetopa. Mr. Roberts' mother was a Quakeress, but he is a Universalist. Mr. Roberts has the record of having never tasted a drop of liquor, or used tobacco in any form. He is one of the most highly respected men in the county, and has done much to improve the township in which he lives. He has ever been a public-spirited citizen and trustworthy neighbor, and has many friends in the community. His portrait accompanies this sketch.

---



M. ROCKAFELLER, who drove through, in 1867, from Illinois to Cherokee county, Kansas, is a worthy representative of the hardy pioneers of this state. He has been a resident of Labette county since 1895, and is located in Mound Valley township, in the southwest quarter of section 1, township 33, range 18. He was born near Connersville, Indiana, in 1844.

Agsilaus Rockafeller, father of F. M., married Pamela Young. Both were born, reared and married in New Jersey. He moved to Indiana, and then, in 1854, to Illinois. He moved to Cherokee county, Kansas, in 1869,

and died there in 1892, at the age of eighty-seven years. He was an active Republican in politics. He and his wife became the parents of 10 children, eight of whom arrived at maturity. Six are now living and are located in Cherokee and Labette counties, Kansas, Illinois, Oklahoma and Arizona.

F. M. Rockafeller was reared partly in Indiana, and partly in Bureau county, Illinois, of which Princeton is the county-seat. At the age of eighteen years, in 1862, he enlisted in Company K, 65th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and served a period of three years. He was wounded at the siege of Knoxville in the fall of 1863. A bullet dislocated his jaw, and incapacitated him for service for seven months. He then served eighteen months longer as a noncommissioned officer, and was mustered out at Chicago in 1865. He returned to Bureau county, Illinois, and in 1867 drove through to Cherokee county, Kansas, with a span of mules, which were afterward exchanged for oxen. Kansas City, Missouri, and Sedalia, were then the nearest railroad points. He met with hard experiences for some years, for no crops were raised in 1868. He took a claim a little east of Sherman City, and resided there until 1895, with the exception of the year 1886, which was spent in California. In 1895 he sold his farm, which was valuable for mining purposes. His land was underlaid with coal, some of which was so close to the surface that he frequently dug it. He came to Labette county where land was cheaper and served his purpose equally well, as it was more adapted to farming purposes. He acquired of Mr. Maudlin the southwest quarter of section 1, township 33, range 18, in Mound Valley township, which had been first conveyed to Mr. Ice, now deceased. He and Mr. Maudlin made great improvements upon the place, and now

Mr. Rockafeller owns a very valuable piece of property. He is engaged in general farming, and raises corn, oats and wheat. He also raises stock, and favors Durham cattle, and Poland-China hogs. He has an orchard of 200 apple trees, which are bearing well. He has an excellent water supply, for Pumpkin Creek flows through his property.

Mr. Rockafeller was united in marriage, in 1866, with Rebecca Darnell, who was born in Kentucky, in 1842, and was reared in Illinois. They have three children: Henry, a farmer in Cherokee county; A. M.; and Zella (Gay), who lives four miles north of her father's place. In politics Mr. Rockafeller was a Republican, but is now a member of the People's party. He is a trustee of Mound Valley township, and for two years held the same office in Cherokee township. He is a member of the G. A. R., is district deputy of the Odd Fellows lodge, and belongs to the A. O. U. W. He and his wife are members of the Sons and Daughters of Justice, and she is president of the order at Mound Valley. Their son, A. M. Rockafeller, is a member of the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Sons and Daughters of Justice. Religiously, the family entertains liberal views. Mr. Rockafeller is a relative of the Standard Oil magnate bearing the same name.

**F** W. SAVAGE, an extensive land owner, and well known farmer of Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Portage county, Ohio, and was born in 1840. He has lived in Labette county since 1870, and since 1883 his home farm has been in section 2, township 33, range 18.

Porter Savage, the father of H. W., was a native of Vermont, and during his active business career followed the occupation of a farmer, and also that of a merchant. Early in life he located in Ohio, where he was captain of a militia company. He removed to Garrett, Indiana, where he lived many years, and where his death occurred. He married Emily Raymond, and she also died in Indiana. They reared five children, namely: F. P., who died in Ohio, in 1898; H. W., the subject of this sketch; G. W., who is a liveryman at Mound Valley, and who was formerly engaged in the furniture business with Mr. Beggs; F. R., who is in Lansing, Michigan; and Mrs. Gibbs, who died in Michigan several years ago.

H. W. Savage received his primary education in Ohio, and at the age of fourteen years moved to Jennings county, Indiana, where he remained until his final move to Labette county, Kansas. In the fall of 1870 Mr. Savage located south of Mound Valley, taking a claim in section 22, township 33, range 18. After improving this, he lived there until 1883, when he sold the farm, and bought one in section 9, township 33, range 18, in the northwest quarter. This farm had been deeded to J. H. Terwilliger. Mr. Savage "bached" there with his brothers-in-law until ready to send for his wife and family. In the fall of 1883 he bought his present home farm, which had been settled as a claim by A. L. Bushnell, a hardware merchant of Mound Valley. Mr. Savage also recently purchased the Black farm of 80 acres, and is now the owner of 360 acres of land, all of which is finely improved. Pumpkin Creek flows through his farm, thus supplying the land and stock with water. An eight-room house affords ample living room, and the outbuildings are all substantial and commodious. Mr. Savage set out a large or-

chard, which yields a good supply of fruit each year. He carries on general farming, and makes a specialty of raising Clydesdale draft horses. Mr. Savage is thoroughly competent to manage a large farm, as his early training in agricultural matters has well equipped him for such work. He is a man of much thrift, and there is no better kept farm in the county than the one on which he lives.

Mr. Savage was united in marriage with Allison Wilson, who was born and reared in Ohio. They have two children,—Letitia E., who is a post-graduate of the Ottawa (Kansas) schools; and H. H., who is at home. The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics, and votes the straight ticket. He has served six terms as treasurer of his township, thus showing the esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens. In religious views he is a Baptist. Mr. Savage was a comparatively poor man when he settled in Labette county, and his success speaks well for his ability and perseverance.



G. WINGFIELD, a prominent merchant of Valeda, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Adams county, Illinois, in 1856. He is a son of Thomas

F. and Mary (Hickerson) Wingfield.

Thomas Wingfield was born in North Carolina in 1830, and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. He married Mary Hickerson, who was also a native of North Carolina, and they reared three children: Jaley; Mary; and J. G.

J. G. Wingfield, whose name heads this sketch, resided in his native state until he settled in Kansas, in September, 1878. He located in Liberty township, Labette county, it having taken him six weeks to make the trip from

Illinois by wagon. He was accompanied by John and Thomas Potter. Mr. Wingfield lived in Labette City until 1887, during which time he worked at his trade of a stone-mason, and also engaged in the merchandise business for a time. His store was burned in 1884, after which he went to Parsons. He removed thence to Kansas City, where he lived for four years. He then went to Johnson county, Kansas, where he lived two years, and thence to the Indian Territory, where he farmed for eight years, and once more returned to Labette county. In 1901 he opened a general store in Valeda, where he has since conducted business. He carries a full line of general merchandise, and his store is very well patronized.

Mr. Wingfield married Lizzie Baker, who was born in Adams county, Illinois, in 1864. They have four children, namely: Mabel; Claude; and Ross and Roy, the last two being twins.

Mr. Wingfield is a Republican in political affiliations. He belongs to the Christian church. He is a man of good business principles, and his dealings with all men are honest and upright.



M. PRESSEY, a well-known farmer of Hackberry township, has been a resident of Labette county, Kansas, since 1870. He has lived a very industrious and frugal life, and has laid by a handsome competency. He was born in Michigan, in 1842, and is a son of E. B. and Julia (Cleland) Pressey.

E. B. Pressey and his wife had seven children, of whom two are now living, namely: Emma; and E. M., the subject of this biographical record.

E. M. Pressey resided in his native state until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He enlisted in the army in 1861, and served four years in Company B, 9th Reg., Mich. Vol. Inf. He drove through by wagon from South Bend, Indiana, to Labette county, in 1870, and located in Elm Grove township, where he staked out a claim. He built a cabin, 12 by 14 feet in size, on his claim, made many other improvements, and lived upon it for three years. In 1883 he moved on his present farm in Hackberry township, section 4, township 35, range 20. It was owned by A. J. Barnes. He has resided on this property ever since, and carries on general farming with much success. He brought the second threshing machine ever taken into Labette county, and has run a thresher for the past thirty-eight years. He is a Republican in politics, and served as constable of Elm Grove township for two years, and on the school board of Hackberry township for three years.

Mr. Pressey was united in marriage with Sarah Bailey, who was born in Fulton county, Indiana, in 1848, and they have reared three children, as follows: Nina E.; Irma V.; and Julia C. Religiously, he and his family are members of the Presbyterian church.



M. MASSA. This gentleman has been prominent in agricultural circles in Labette county, Kansas, since 1872.

He resides on the east half of the southeast quarter of section 13, in Elm Grove township, and was born in Illinois, in 1837. He is a son of James Massa.

James Massa was born in Tennessee, and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. He married Margaret Pryor, who was

also a native of Tennessee, and they reared nine children, three of whom are now living, namely: Thomas; F. M., the subject of this sketch; and Polly Ann.

F. M. Massa was reared in Illinois, where he attended the common schools of his native county, and later assisted his father in farming. He remained in that state until 1872, when he removed to Kansas. In the fall of that year, he bought the east half of the southeast quarter of section 13, township 34, range 19, and has lived there since that time. He built a cabin, 16 feet square, and later added a shed to it, for a kitchen. Since that time he has made extensive improvements, and in 1877 entered his claim at Independence, Kansas. His present house was built in 1885. Mr. Massa made the trip from Illinois to Kansas by wagon, the journey taking eighteen days. He is a self-made man, and his success is due entirely to his own efforts. Mr. Massa has worked unceasingly, and with untiring energy, and he has one of the best farms in the township.

Mr. Massa married Polly Sharp, who was born in Illinois, in 1840. They have reared four children: Mollie; Chloe; George; and Oscar. Mr. Massa has always been a member of the Democratic party, and has taken an active interest in local politics. He has served on the school board one term. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.



MS. SAMANTHA H. BISHOP, widow of the late A. Bishop, whose death occurred in 1897, is one of the early settlers of Labette county. She was born in Portage county, Ohio, in 1840, and is a daughter of Joseph



and Charlotte (Cox) Rogers. She is one of seven children, six of whom are now living. Most of the children live in Ohio, but Mrs. Bishop has one brother who lives in Michigan.

While living in Ohio, the subject of this sketch was married to O. E. Hartman, who was a native of Pennsylvania. When young, he removed to Ohio, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. He died in Labette county, in May, 1871, aged fifty years. Two children were the result of this union: Minnie, who died at the age of eight years; and Inez, who is living with her mother. In the fall of 1867, they removed to Labette county, Kansas, where they took up in Hackberry township the present home farm,—the northeast quarter of section 16, township 34, range 20. There she has lived since that time, with the exception of six years' residence with her daughter in Oswego. In 1896, she returned to the farm, and made extensive improvements on the place. Lake Creek flows through this farm, and there is a great deal of natural timber along the creek. The first crops raised on this farm were sod-corn and pumpkins, and later, wheat.

Mrs. Bishop married, secondly, James Sloan, who died in 1884, leaving one son: Ernest, who graduated in the class of 1901, at the County High School at Altamont. Mrs. Bishop married A. Bishop, who was also an early resident of Labette county. He died in 1897. In politics, he was a Republican, and served as justice of the peace for many years. He belonged to the A. F. & A. M. lodge at Chetopa. Religiously, both he and his wife were Methodists.

Mrs. Bishop is a woman of many good qualities, and is well known and liked in the county. She manages her farm well, and

everything is kept in good condition. She is a kind neighbor, and is always ready to help those in need.



RS. MARY A. ROBERTS, a well-known resident of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, is the wife of Marion Roberts, a carpenter and farmer by occupation. Mrs. Roberts was born in the western part of Virginia, in 1857, and is a daughter of Elmer and Rebecca (Cooper) Daniels.

Elmer Daniels was a farmer, and was born in Virginia. He married Rebecca Cooper, and they had the following children: Eugene; John; Mary A., the subject of this sketch; Jennie; Elizabeth; Laura; Charles; Anna; Grace; Frank; and Edward, who is now attending Baker University, and is studying for the Gospel ministry.

Mrs. Mary A. Roberts went to Illinois when she was fifteen years old. She lived there until she reached the age of twenty-one years, when she married Samuel Lewman, in 1877. He was born in Illinois, and his death occurred in 1884. He was a farmer by occupation. One child resulted from this union, namely: Stella M., who is a graduate of the County High School at Altamont, of the class of 1898, and is now principal of the Valeda public schools. Mrs. Roberts came to Labette county in 1881, and located near Chetopa. In 1882 she bought a farm in Howard township,—the southeast quarter of section 32, township 34, range 18,—which has since been her home.

In 1887, our subject married Marion Roberts, who was born in Iowa, in 1858. They have one child,—Frankie. Mr. Roberts is a



Democrat, in politics. He belongs to the Valeda Lodge of Modern Woodmen of America.

Mrs. Roberts is highly esteemed in Howard township, and is well known for her frequent charitable acts. She is a woman of many estimable qualities, and has a large number of friends in the county.



**W. D. STURGIS**, for many years a prominent agriculturist of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, has been a resident of the city of Edna since October, 1900, and is now devoting the greater part of his attention to stock dealing. He has dealt in stock since his boyhood days, and, being a man of good business ability, has met with great success. He was born in Illinois, in 1854, and is a son of J. H. Sturgis.

J. H. Sturgis was born in Fairfield, Ohio, in 1829, and became a plasterer. He followed farming most of his life, however, and now lives in retirement, in Illinois. He married Ann Hendershot, who was born in Staunton, Illinois, and they had two children: W. D., the subject of this sketch; and Sarah, deceased.

W. D. Sturgis spent his early life in Illinois, and at the age of twelve years began dealing in stock by buying eight pigs. He came to Kansas in the spring of 1890, and located in the north half of section 7, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township, Labette county, and engaged in general farming and stock raising. He made great improvements on his farm in every respect. In order to give more attention to his stock business, he rented his farm in October, 1900, and moved to the town of Edna. He also owns 160 acres of land east of Edna, which he devoted to pasturing purposes.

Mr. Sturgis was united in wedlock with Celia E. Smith, who was born in Illinois, in 1862, and they reared two children,—Florence E., a graduate of the County High School at Altamont, in 1899, who is now a teacher in the schools at Edna, and resides at home; and F. E., who also lives with his parents. In politics Mr. Sturgis is a Republican, and served as clerk of Elm Grove township in 1900. He is now in the town council. Fraternally, he belongs to Edna Lodge, A. F. & A. M. He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Florence E. is an active member.



**E. MASON**, a farmer of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, living in section 28, township 34, range 18, was born in Spencer county, Kentucky, March 17, 1837. He is a son of W. H. and Eliza (McGuire) Mason. W. H. Mason was born in Kentucky, and married Eliza McGuire. They had six children: W. E., the subject of this sketch; John P.; George R.; Jane D.; Eliza B.; and Nancy, deceased.

W. E. Mason was reared in Shelby county, Kentucky, until he was seventeen years old. During his early years, he followed the trade of a carpenter. He was a slave owner, but when the Civil war broke out he enlisted on the Union side, and served in Company F, 6th Reg., Ky. Vol. Inf. He saw much active service, and took part in the battles of Stone River, Perryville and Shiloh; he served in the army for three years. After the war he returned to Kentucky, where he lived for a number of years. In 1876, he went to Illinois, where he remained one year, and then returned to Kentucky. There he followed the trade of

a carpenter. Mr. Mason located in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, in January, 1885. He first spent a short time in Oswego, and then moved upon the Neville farm, where he carries on general farming. He is a man of firm, honest and upright principles, and is greatly esteemed by all who know him.

Mr. Mason married Mrs. Sarah Neville, in 1886. She had by her first marriage the following children, namely: John, who married Mattie Opdyke, and resides in Coffeyville, Kansas; Charles, who married Mina Sweet, and has two children,—Leona and Gladys; Carrie, who married A. J. Brown, a farmer of Canada township, and has one child,—Laura; and Albert H. Mr. Mason is a member of the Populist party. He belongs to the G. A. R., Edna Post, No. 160; and to the M. W. of A. Lodge, of Valeda. He is a member of the Christian church. Mr. Mason has many warm friends in the county.



F. LERCH, deceased. This gentleman was one of the well-known farmers residing in Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas. He was born near Paris, Illinois, in 1862.

Mr. Lerch removed to Kansas in 1876, and settled in Elm Grove township, Labette county, where he began farming. In 1892, he located on the farm which his wife now conducts, and there he carried on general farming until his death, which occurred in 1901. Mr. Lerch was a man of splendid qualities, and upright principles, and his death was sincerely mourned by all who knew him. He was well known and universally esteemed in the township in which he lived, and was always among the first to lend a helping hand in any

public enterprise which tended toward the welfare of the community. Mr. Lerch was a Republican in politics, and took an active interest in local affairs. He was a member of the M. W. of A.

Mr. Lerch was united in marriage with Nellie G. Stewart. She came to Labette county with her parents, in 1878. William Stewart, her father, was born in Illinois, and now lives near Joplin, Missouri, where he follows the occupation of a farmer. Mr. Stewart married Margaret Johnson, who was a native of Ohio. They were the parents of two children, namely: Nellie, who married Mr. Lerch; and A. T., who now lives in California. Mr. Stewart bought the farm which is now owned by his daughter, and lived on it until 1893.

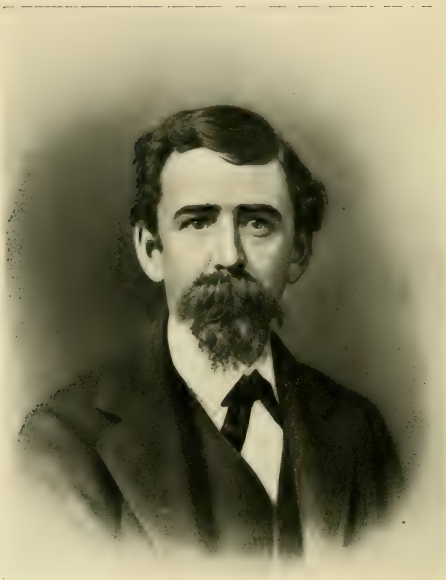
Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Lerch has been assisted in conducting the farm by her two sons, Carl B. and Albert L. Mrs. Lerch is a woman of many estimable qualities, and is a kind and charitable neighbor. She is a member of the Presbyterian church, in which she is an active worker.



O. TIS BILLINGS HOLMAN, living in the west half of section 24, township 34, range 20, in Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, has been prominently identified with the growth and development of that county since 1879. He was born in Kosciusko county, Indiana, in 1845, and is a son of C. W. and Delilah (Burns) Holman.

C. W. Holman was born in Wayne county, Indiana, in 1822. He was a farmer and stockman, and in 1878 removed to Labette county, where his death occurred, in November, 1899. He married Delilah Burns, who was born in





E. W. HOPKINS.

Indiana, in 1820, and died in Labette county, in 1880. They reared five children, namely: Otis Billings, the subject of this sketch; G. W., who is an attorney at Rochester, Indiana; Amelia, who married Daniel Jones, and who died in Fulton county, Indiana, in 1900; John D., a boot and shoe merchant of Rochester, Indiana; and J. Frank, who is an electrician of Neosho, Missouri.

Otis Billings Holman was reared in his native county, and learned the tilling of the soil on his father's farm. After his marriage he removed to Ohio, where he lived for two and a half years, and then returned to Fulton county, Indiana, where he remained five years. In February, 1879, he bought the southwest quarter of section 24, township 34, range 20, in Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, and this has been his home since that date. The farm had been preempted by A. C. in the county. The northwest quarter of this Tullis, and part of the land was broken and two acres of orchard had been set out, when Mr. Holman bought the place. He has added to this extensively, made many important improvements, and his farm is one of the finest section had been bought by Mr. Holman's father-in-law, and was later deeded to Mrs. Holman. This gives them half of the section, and it is kept in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Holman built a large, nine-room house, in 1888, and in 1898, he erected a barn 60 by 42 feet in size, and 20 feet high, above the basement, which is of stone. This barn is one of the largest and most substantial in Labette county. Mr. Holman now has five acres of orchard, and has set out hedge about the farm. He has dealt largely in stock,—buying and feeding hogs, mainly. Mr. Holman is a man of much executive ability, and the careful management of his farm shows the natural ability

of its owner. He started with less than \$1,000 and by thrift and perseverance has become one of the most prosperous farmers in the township.

Mr. Holman was married, in Ohio, to Nancy A. Bloomer. She was born in Ohio, in 1850, and is a daughter of Elijah Bloomer. She was the youngest of a large family of children, and her mother died when she was very young. She removed with her father to Indiana, where she lived with a sister until her marriage to Mr. Holman. They have two children: Della Delilah, who married Ernest Leap, of Hackberry township, and has three children,—Alice L., Harold H. and Otis G.; and Elijah B., who was born in Labette county in 1880, and is living at home.

Politically, Mr. Holman was a Democrat until Cleveland's administration, and since that time has been a Populist. He has held various township offices, and was treasurer of District No. 70. Fraternally, he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and was formerly connected with the Grangers. He is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. Religiously, he prefers the Christian church.



W. HOPKINS, deceased, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, was for many years one of the influential farmers living in Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas. His home farm was in section 15, township 34, range 20, and consisted of a quarter section. He also owned 40 acres in section 9, and eighty acres in section 3, township 34, range 20. Mr. Hopkins was born in Portage county, Ohio, in 1846, and is a son of Horace and Eunice (Puffer) Hopkins. Horace Hopkins died in Labette county,

while visiting his son. Mrs. Hopkins is still living in Ohio; a daughter, Ida also lives in Ohio.

E. W. Hopkins was reared and schooled in Ohio, and grew to manhood in that state. He was very fond of hunting and trapping, and this proved a favorite sport with him during his younger days. Mr. Hopkins removed to Labette county, Kansas, in 1870, and in the spring of 1872 settled in Hackberry township on a farm in section 15, township 34, range 20. In 1862 he placed the cabin which had stood on the land for a number of years, by a comfortable frame structure, and later added large barns and outbuildings. He set out a fine orchard, and made many valuable improvements in general, until the farm became known as one of the finest in the county. A high grade of cattle is raised, and everything grown on the place is of the best. Since Mr. Hopkins' death, which occurred in February, 1899, at the age of fifty-two years, his son, Clarence, has managed the farm. Mr. Hopkins won the confidence of all who met him, and there was no better man in his section of the county. He taught the first district school in Hackberry township, which was where District No. 26 is now located. He was universally respected and esteemed, and his death was sincerely mourned by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Hopkins was united in marriage with Anna Downing, in the state of Arkansas. She is a daughter of George S. and Caroline (Davis) Downing, and the latter still lives in Colorado. George Downing was an early settler of Labette county, but removed to Arkansas, where he farmed for three years. Thence he went to Colorado, where he was engaged in farming until his death, in the winter of 1900-01. On his ar-

rival in Labette county, Mr. Downing organized a Sunday-school in District No. 26, Hackberry township. He also preached the Gospel, but never accepted pay for his services. He was known far and near as a very devout Christian. He had seven girls and five boys, namely: Marietta; Nathan; William; Laura; John; Anna, the wife of Mr. Hopkins; Ellen; Kate; Abraham; Victoria; Alice; and George S. Most of the children live in Colorado. Mrs. Hopkins was born in Fulton county, Illinois, in 1853, and in 1861 removed to Miami county, Kansas, where her parents lived for a short time. When she was sixteen years old, her parents removed to Labette county, and thence to Arkansas, where she remained until her marriage, and then returned to Labette county.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins was blessed by the birth of two sons and four daughters, as follows: Clarence, who is manager of the farm since his father's demise; May; Carrie E.; Ethel; Edna; and George. The two last named are dead. Politically, Mr. Hopkins was a Republican for a number of years, but later in life became a Populist. He was a man of strong convictions, and took an active interest in local politics. In religious views he was liberal, giving his support to all denominations. He was very well known in Labette county, and was always a public-spirited and useful citizen.



MARY D. BIGHAM, for many years a prominent resident of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in New York state, in 1829, and is a daughter of Aaron and Hannah (Ashton) Sisum. When she was nine years



of age, her parents moved to Pickaway county, Ohio, where she lived until she was twenty-two years old.

Her father, Aaron Sisum, was born in Germany, and came to America when but a youth. He learned the shoemaker's trade, and became a useful man in the community in which he resided. He married Hannah Ashton, who was born in England, and came to the United States when a girl of fifteen years. They reared a family of three children: Mary D., the subject of this sketch; and John and Derrick, deceased.

Mary D. was united in marriage with John Bigham. He was a native of Ohio, and was born in 1828. He was engaged in farming until the time of his death, which occurred in 1867. Soon after the death of her husband, Mrs. Bigham moved to Kansas, and located in the southeast quarter of section 31, Montana township, where she has resided ever since. Mrs. Bigham has reared six children, five of whom are living. They are all prominent farmers. James is a farmer in Oklahoma. Aaron is a prosperous farmer in Montana township, Labette county, Kansas. Solomon is a tiller of the soil in the Indian Territory. George and Marshall are looking after the interests of their mother on the home farm, most of which is rented. Mrs. Bigham is a woman of considerable thrift and energy, and occupies a very high place in the estimation of her friends and neighbors.

**J**ERRY BERENTZ, who arrived in Labette county, in 1869, is one of the leading agriculturists of Hackberry township, where he is located in section 22, township 34, range 20. He was born

in Washington county, Ohio, in 1842, and is a son of Rev. C. W. Berentz.

Rev. C. W. Berentz, for many years a minister in the Reformed church, is deceased. He was a native of Germany, and was a child when he came to America. He married Henrietta Oakes, who was born and married in Pennsylvania. Six sons and four daughters were born to them, one of the sons being located at Oswego, Labette county, Kansas.

Jerry Berentz was reared in Ohio until 1859, when, at the age of seventeen years, he went to Illinois. In 1861, he enlisted in Company C, 12th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and participated in all but one of the engagements of his company. He was in the service four years, and was mustered out at Springfield, Vermilion county, Illinois. He was then engaged in farming and sheep raising there until he moved to Kansas, in August, 1869, and located in Labette county, in Elm Grove township, a few miles southwest of Edna. He brought with him some fine rams, valued at \$200 each, and expected to engage in sheep raising. His animals died, however, and he turned his attention to general farming. He took as a claim the farm now owned by Ed. Clark, improved it, and resided upon it, until the fall of 1890, when he sold out and went to the "Nation." Returning to Labette county in the spring of 1898, he purchased the Dorland farm of 120 acres in Hackberry township, in section 22, township 34, range 20, which was a finely improved piece of property. He has a six-acre orchard, which is bearing well, and fine, large maple shade trees. The farm is fenced off in 20-acre lots, by hedge, which is kept well trimmed, and it presents a very fine appearance. He follows diversified farming, makes corn his principal crop, and has also 60 acres

in clover. At first he did his trading at Kingston, where he helped in the erection of the Presbyterian church, which was subsequently moved to Edna.

Mr. Berentz was united in marriage, in Illinois, with Emma Jane Olmsted, who was born in Washington county, Ohio, and reared in Illinois, and they became the parents of three children, namely: Maude; Mabel; and W. T., who is a prominent hardware merchant of Bartlesville, Indian Territory, associated with R. H. Muzzy, of Edna. In politics, Mr. Berentz is a Republican. Fraternally, he has been a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen for the past twenty years. He is a member of the G. A. R., Knoxville Post, of Edna, Kansas. In religious views, he is a Presbyterian.

---

**A**ARON BRÄMMER, a prosperous farmer of Labette county, Kansas, lives in section 18, Montana township, Ohio, in 1836, and is a son of Edmond and Nancy (Hatfield) Brammer.

Edmond Brammer was born in Virginia, in 1801, and his wife was born in the same state in 1801. He was an own cousin of General Lee. They reared the following children: Roland, deceased; Mary, who married a Mr. Black and lives in Delaware county, Indiana; Malinda and Rachel, deceased; Aaron, the subject of this sketch; Rebecca, deceased; Elizabeth (Black); Henley, deceased; Malina (Wilcox), of Delaware county, Indiana; and Sarah Ann (Brammer).

Aaron Brammer was taken from his native county when a small child, and was reared in Delaware county, Indiana. He lived there

until 1866, when he located in Bureau county, Illinois, and farmed there for a period of eleven years. In 1877, he sold his farm and went to Muncie, Indiana, where he conducted a livery stable for three years. He afterward located in Carroll county, Missouri, and resided there until he came to Kansas, in 1882, and settled in Labette county. He took up his present farm,—the west half of the north-west quarter of section 18, in Montana township. He is engaged in general farming, and is meeting with good results.

Mr. Brammer was united in marriage with Catherine Black, who was born in Delaware county, Indiana, and is a daughter of William Black, who was born in 1813. William Black married Ruthey Stafford, who was born in Ohio, in 1816, and they reared the following children: Margaret (St. John); Susan, deceased; James; Catherine; Martha, Salina and Sarah E., deceased; Annetta; and William. Mr. and Mrs. Brammer have had the following children: William, deceased; Flora (Gaston), who has one daughter,—Pearl; Caroline; Charley; and Laura (Tus-ton). In politics, Mr. Brammer is independent, and fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order.

---

**J**ACOB DREITZLER, a highly respected farmer living in section 16, township 34, range 20, Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Hancock county, Ohio. He was born in 1858, and is a son of J. H. and Mary (Ertzinger) Dreitzler.

J. H. Dreitzler was a native of Germany, and for many years farmed in Nebraska. He died in March, 1893, at the age of seventy





MR. AND MRS. PERRY O. C. NIXON.

years. His wife was born in Ohio, and her death occurred several years ago. They had nine children, namely: Jonathan and Susanna, deceased; Ephraim, who is a liveryman at Hastings, Nebraska; Eli, who settled in Labette county in 1896, and owns a farm in Hackberry township, in section 17, township 34, range 20; Emma (Rickle), who lives in Stromsburg, Nebraska; Jacob; John, also of Stromsburg, Nebraska; George, who lives in Indiana; and Ida (Kirkman), who lives near Stromsburg, Nebraska.

Jacob Dreitzler was reared in Indiana, whither his parents had removed from Ohio. In the fall of 1883, he left Indiana, and came to Kansas, deciding to make this state his future home. After his marriage, he settled in Hackberry township, in the northwest quarter of section 16, township 34, range 20, on 80 acres which was owned by his wife. Soon after his marriage, he bought the north 80 acres in that quarter section, and in 1900 he bought 80 acres of land in section 17. Much of the land on his home farm had been broken, and Mr. Dreitzler built an eight-room house, and set out a number of trees. He has made many fine improvements on the farm, and is very proud of its neat and attractive appearance. He did a great deal of threshing in addition to farming, up to the fall of 1900, and since that time has given all his attention to general farming alone. He is a man who has worked always with the determination to succeed, and his efforts have been well rewarded.

Mr. Dreitzler was united in marriage, in Labette county, with Tena Kibler, who was born in Ohio, in 1851, and who moved to Labette county in 1871. Mr. Dreitzler and his wife have one child, John Clyde. In politics, Mr. Dreitzler is a Democrat. He is a member of the school board in his district, and has been

road overseer for a number of years. He is now treasurer of Hackberry township. He has always taken a deep interest in all measures which are for the good of the community in which he lives, and is highly esteemed by his fellow citizens.



PERRY OLIVER COOK NIXON, who for more than thirty years past has been one of the foremost citizens of Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, is located in section 6, township 32, range 18. He was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1839, and is a son of George and Christina (Pence) Nixon.

George Nixon was born in Delaware, and died in Ohio, in the spring of 1861. His wife was a native of Pennsylvania, and died in Ohio in 1845. They were the parents of the following children: Elizabeth J., a widow, residing in Ohio; Seeds and Susan, also of Ohio; Emeline, who lives in Iowa; Perry O. C.; Isaiah, who located in Osage Mission, Kansas, in 1867, and later resided in Osage township until 1885, when he removed to Iowa, where he still resides; Marcus, who died while serving in the army during the Civil war; and Charles Alexander, who was killed in the army at Vicksburg.

Perry O. C. Nixon was very young when his parents took him to Ohio, where he was reared. At an early age he was bound out to Wilson Walden, and went with him to Knox county, Illinois. He worked for him ten years, at the conclusion of which period he had reached the age of eighteen years, and began looking out for his own interests. In 1860, he went to Pikes Peak, and spent his twenty-first birthday in the mountains. In the fall

of 1860, he returned to St. Louis and began working in the American bottoms. Early in 1861, he returned to Knox county, Illinois, and there hired out by the month. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, 10th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., as a private, and was later promoted to be a sergeant. He served three years and eleven months, and was at the front nearly all the time. He was in Granger's reserve corps during the battle of Chickamauga, and then was attached to the 2d Division, 14th Army Corps. Three days before Atlanta fell, he was placed with the 17th Army Corps, accompanied Sherman in his famous march to the sea, participated in the grand review at Washington, District of Columbia. His messmate and friend, William Morris, was killed at his side, but he was always fortunate enough to escape injury. He was mustered out July 4, 1865, at Louisville, Kentucky, received his pay, and was discharged at Chicago, July 12, 1865. He then bought a rough farm on Spoon river, and engaged in farming. In 1869, he and his family, with two other families, drove from Knox county, Illinois, to Labette county, Kansas. He had a brother at Osage Mission, and stopped there long enough to make him a visit. At that time the town of Farsons had not yet been thought of, and Girard was the nearest railroad station. Mr. Nixon took as a claim 40 acres in section 6, township 32, range 18, on which are located his present buildings, and three 40-acre tracts in section 1, township 32, range 17. He has since disposed of some of his land, and now owns 100 acres. His first house was built of native lumber, cut on Big Hill creek. During the first year he raised sod-corn, which he planted with the assistance of an ax, and was very successful with his first crop. Mr. Nixon's house was destroyed by a cyclone in

1892, and was replaced by a larger and more substantial one. He has recently completed a new barn, and the entire farm is kept in the best possible condition. He follows general farming, and raises high grade cattle and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Nixon was present at the investigation of the famous "Bender slaughter pen," and saw seven of the bodies exhumed.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Virginia Humphreys, who was reared in Illinois. She died in the fall of 1898, at the age of forty-two years, having given birth to the following children: John William T., who died at the age of eighteen years; Emeline (Edwards), of Oklahoma, who has five children,—Ethel, Minnie, Ross, Mabel, Ivy and an infant boy; Charles; Etta Jane (Tussig), of the Indian Territory, who has three children,—Mamie, Beatrice and Clara; Flora (Sinclair), who resides on her father's farm, and has three children,—Beulah, Millie and Ruth; Mary E.; Sabie; and Egbert P. In politics, Mr. Nixon is a Republican, and was formerly a member of the school board in District No. 36. He is a member of Hackleman Post, No. 142, G. A. R., of Cherryvale. Religiously, he and his family are Methodists, and attend the church at Excelsior, which he helped to erect. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Nixon accompany this sketch.

---

**N**ATHANIEL GREENE HENSHAW, one of the pioneer settlers of Mound Valley, Labette county, Kansas, has lived for many years at his present home, in section 36, township 32, range 17. He was born, January 4, 1847, in Effingham



county, Illinois, and is a son of Nathan G. and Jane (Weatherby) Henshaw.

Nathan G. Henshaw died on a mail packet at New Orleans, in the spring of 1850. His death was caused by cholera. Mrs. Henshaw died when her son, Nathaniel, was but one week old. She left two other children, namely: William, now conducting a nail factory at Belleville, Illinois; and Maggie, the wife of Stephen Apperson, of St. Louis, Missouri.

Nathaniel Greene Henshaw, whose name opens this sketch, was reared by a kind-hearted Pennsylvania-Dutchman, whose name was Trober. He remained with him until he reached the age of sixteen years, when he enlisted in Company E, 11th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and later was transferred to the 8th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and assigned to Company B. He served in the army very nearly three years, and was mustered out at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1866. After that, he returned to Illinois, where he farmed until he located in Labette county, Kansas.

Mr. Henshaw moved to Labette county, October 23, 1870. He settled on the farm where he now lives, and for eight or ten years was in litigation with the railroad company. He sold 80 acres of his farm, and now has 86 acres of finely improved land. When he located in Kansas, he was accompanied by his brother-in-law. He built a log house, and brought his family here to live. In 1872, a cyclone swept through that part of the county, devastating a space about 200 yards wide, and finally reaching Iowa, where it did much damage. Mr. Henshaw's farm is situated at the head of two creeks, or draws, one going north and one south. The storm followed these draws, and while no one was injured, everything was badly shaken up, and distributed over a large area. The log house was de-

stroyed, but Mr. Henshaw soon built another, which is now standing. A stone hen-house was also destroyed by the cyclone. Mr. Henshaw is very proud of a large elm tree which stands back of his house, and which is nine feet in circumference. He carried the switch from which it grew in his pocket. He has some very large maple trees, which add greatly to the appearance of his farm. In 1876, he set out some hedges, which divide the farm into seven parts. When he first located on this farm, he broke some land, and raised sod-corn, oats and buckwheat. He now gives much attention to the raising of Poland-China hogs. His home is a very comfortable one, and he has one of the best farms in the section. The buildings are all commodious and substantial, and the orchard and grounds are in fine condition.

Mr. Henshaw was united in marriage, in Illinois, with Lurinda Stapleton. She was born in Illinois, in 1845, and is a daughter of Elisha Stapleton. Elisha Stapleton held the first justice court in the western part of the county,—serving a number of years. He died in 1875, in Labette county, and his wife died in 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Henshaw have six children living, and had one, who died when an infant. The living are: Maggie Dean; Edward, who married Miss Cooper, lives on the old Potter farm, and has two children,—Carrie and Mabel; Laura Belle; Mary Alice; Daisy (Gillett), who lives near her father's farm; and Jennie.

Mr. Henshaw has always voted the Republican ticket. He has served on the school board in District No. 68. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post, of Mound Valley. He was formerly a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. Religiously, he belongs to the Christian church.

**J**AMES A. LONG & BROTHER. These gentlemen are extensively engaged in general threshing, and a machine and repair-shop business, and are well known in Labette county. They are sons of Avington and Esther (Elliott) Long, and were born in Indiana.

Avington Long, the father of these brothers, was born in Kentucky, but his ancestors originally came from Virginia. He married Esther Elliott, who was reared in Indiana, and is now living in that state. This union resulted in the birth of four children, whose names appear as follows: James A.; George A., who lives in Kay county, Oklahoma; Sarah, who lives in Indiana, with her mother; and Charles F.

James A. and Charles F. Long were reared and educated in Indiana, where they learned the machinist and wood working trade. In 1874, they built a grist-mill at Hall, Indiana, which they conducted until 1878. Charles F. Long then removed to Labette county, Kansas, and was engaged in threshing until 1881. James A. removed to Edna, Kansas, in 1888, and formed a partnership with Charles F.,—the firm name reading James A. Long & Brother. For several years they have done general threshing, and a machine and repair-shop business. They own two threshing machines, and during harvesting time their services are in great demand, as they are well and favorably known throughout the county. They own three lots, and have a space under roof, 38 by 60 feet in extent. They employ one assistant regularly, and during the busy season often hire large crews. They are thrifty and conscientious workmen, and perform their duties in a very satisfactory manner.

James A. Long married N. J. Lanpher, and they have three children, namely: Charles

L.; Edwin Fishback; and Avington. The father owns three lots and a comfortable home in Edna. James A. is an independent in politics, has been a member of the city council, and is an ex-police judge. Fraternally, he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and his wife is a member of the Rebekahs.

Charles F. Long married Della Williams, and they have three children, namely: Herman; Verl; and Howard. He is a member of the Methodist church, and owns a good home in Edna.

The Long Brothers are highly respected in Edna, as honest and upright citizens.



G. KINCAID, who is the well-known liveryman of Mound Valley, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Switzerland county, Indiana, in 1851. Mr. Kincaid is a son of James and Catherine (Clark) Kincaid.

James Kincaid was a contractor, and has been dead a number of years. His wife died recently, at the age of eighty-nine years. They reared three sons and three daughters, and W. G. is the only one living in Kansas.

W. G. Kincaid was reared and schooled in Indiana, where he learned the trade of a blacksmith. He came to Kansas in 1884, and located in Winfield, where he started a carriage shop. He conducted this line of business for one year and a half, when he became a member of a town company, and assisted in founding the town of Ashland, Kansas. From Ashland Mr. Kincaid moved to Connersville, Indiana, where he engaged in the shop of McFarlin & Company, as upfitter and foreman of the upfitting room. Later, he removed to Mound Valley, where he lived on a farm one





MRS. J. L. WILSON.



LEON C. WILSON.

J. L. WILSON.

mile from town, until 1891. He subsequently purchased the livery barn, which was kept by James Bell, who was the pioneer liveryman of the town. He rented this barn to George H. Savage until the beginning of 1901, when he restocked it and began business under his own name. He has a fine, new line of buggies, and keeps from 12 to 14 fine horses, eight of them being registered animals. He takes charge of funerals, and also operates a cab and hack line. The building in which Mr. Kincaid conducts his business is about 60 by 40 feet in dimensions. Patrons are given the best and most prompt attention, and Mr. Kincaid wins many friends by his genial manner. He is ably assisted by his son Albert.

Mr. Kincaid married Viola Markland, who died in 1882, leaving one son, Albert. He married again,—Jennie Ice becoming his wife. Mr. Kincaid is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M., having joined the order in Indiana, and being now affiliated with the Mound Valley blue lodge. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., M. W. of A., A. O. U. W., and I. O. R. M. Religiously, he is a member of the Baptist church.



L. WILSON, who lives in section 23, township 18, range 31, in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, has been identified with the county's development for the past twenty-two years. He was born in Illinois March 26, 1852, and is a son of James and Hannah (Heaton) Wilson.

James Wilson was born in Uniontown, Kentucky, in 1813, and followed farming all his active life. He died at the age of seventy-

three years. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Heaton, was born in Ohio, and died at the age of thirty-six years, in April, 1852. They reared six children, namely: Ambrose, who lives in Illinois; William H., who lives at Long Beach, California; Samuel R., who lives in Princeton, Illinois; Parthena E., who lives at Lincoln, Nebraska; Cyrus E., of Humboldt, Iowa; and James L., the subject of this sketch.

After remaining at home for a number of years, James L. Wilson moved to Idenbro, Kansas, where he bought a farm. He then went back to his home in Illinois, where he staid the rest of the year. In December, 1880, he traded the farm near Idenbro for another in Osage township, which was known as the James Master farm. He again returned to Illinois, where he remained until December, 1881, and then came back to Kansas, where he was married, in February, 1882, and passed the rest of the summer in Parsons. During that time he worked for the Parsons Coal Company, near Weir City, Kansas. He then moved to Dennis, Kansas, and was there engaged in the hardware business for three years. During this time he was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland. He kept the post-office in his store. After serving one term, he sold out his hardware business and moved upon his farm, where he has since lived. He owns three farms in Osage township, all of which are rented out.

Mr. Wilson is a stanch Democrat; he has held various offices, among them that of justice of the peace. He was treasurer of the school board for eight years, and is now serving as trustee of Osage township. He is president of the Anti-Horsethief Association. He is a Mason, having taken 26 degrees. He is also a member of the Odd Fellows lodge,

and belongs to the Sons and Daughters of Justice. Mr. Wilson was married February 7, 1882, and his wife died February 25, 1898. They were the parents of five children, namely: James William, deceased; Leon C., who lives with his father, and was the first child born in Dennis, Kansas, the date being December 24, 1884; and Edgar M., Glen and Addie P., deceased.

Mr. Wilson is a very prominent man in the township, is always interested in the welfare of the community, and lends his assistance to all worthy and charitable enterprises. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and son, Leon C., appear on a preceding page in proximity to this.

---

**O**SCAR L. HOWELL, a well-known farmer residing in section 14, Labette township, Labette county, Kansas, has been one of the influential farmers of the county since 1883. He was born in Mason county, Illinois, in 1844, and is a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Long) Howell.

Charles Howell was born in Pennsylvania in 1808, and now, at the age of ninety-three years, resides with his son, Oscar L. He is the oldest man in Labette county, and is quite proud of the distinction. His wife, Elizabeth (Long) Howell, was born in Pennsylvania in 1814, and they reared ten children, namely: Franklin, deceased; Mary E.; Orpha, deceased; Sally; Martha; Oscar L., the subject of this sketch; Lewis; Anson; Catherine; and Emma.

Oscar L. Howell received his mental training in the common schools of his native county, and in 1863 enlisted in Company K, 85th

Reg., Ill Vol. Inf., but as he was not of age his parents kept him at home. In 1883, Mr. Howell moved with his father to Labette county, where his father bought the farm on which he now lives, in 1872. In 1882, a new house was erected on the land, and the elder Mr. Howell conveyed the farm to Oscar L. There he carries on general farming and stock raising. He is a thrifty farmer, and has made many improvements on the land, and it presents a good, substantial appearance.

Mr. Howell was united in marriage with Tilarah Gerry, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1849. She is a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Valentine) Gerry, both natives of New Jersey. Peter Gerry was a farmer by occupation. He and his wife reared two children: Tilarah and George. Mr. and Mrs. Howell have been blessed with six children, all of whom are living. Their names are: Frank A., a miner, who resides at Ouray, Colorado; Harry, Emma S. and Minnie, of the same place; and Clyde and Ralph, who are at home.

Mr. Howell votes an independent ticket. He has served on the school board since first coming to Labette county, and now holds the office of clerk of the board. He belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association.

---

**J**AMES T. PEFFLEY, one of Walton township's most esteemed citizens, and joint owner and head proprietor of Peffley Brothers' farm, which is among the largest and finest in Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Illinois, in which state he was born in 1853.

His father, Henry Peffley, is descended from a prominent Virginia family, and was,




himself, born in that state, in April, 1811. He followed carpenter work in his native state and was considered an expert in that line of work. In 1864, he moved with his family into Iowa. Several years afterward,—about 1869,—he took leave of his family and sought a better location for them farther south, where the climate was somewhat milder. He found a desirable locality in Labette county, Kansas, and removed his family in 1870. The same year, he took up a homestead claim in Walton township,—the northeast quarter of section 14. This is a part of the farm now occupied by several of his sons. In this western home, where it was difficult even to obtain building material, aside from the additional expense of hiring carpenters, the trade which the elder Pefley had followed for years now stood him in good stead, and proved very valuable to him. He was enabled to build his own residence, and in 1870, erected a large, two-story frame house, containing seven rooms. In those pioneer days a house of that size was considered almost a palace, and Henry Pefley's was, in this respect, an object of envy to not a few of his less fortunate neighbors, who were not so handy with tools.

August 22, 1890, Henry Pefley passed to his final rest. He was survived by his widow, whose maiden name was Catherine Caton, and who was a native of Muskingum county, Ohio. Seven children were born to her and her husband, namely: Mary, deceased; Rachel J., who is at home; Henry, deceased; Archibald, a farmer, whose land adjoins the farm of our subject; James T., the subject of this record; J. C.; and Abe L. The two last named are joint proprietors with James T. of the homestead farm, and they carry on agricultural pursuits in perfect unison, each one seemingly indispensable to the success of the

other. These brothers have made a specialty of general farming, and have raised stock also to a limited extent. The homestead farm, to which they succeeded upon the death of their father, is their special pride. They have greatly improved and beautified this and have added to it from time to time until they now own 320 acres of as fine and productive farming land as one would wish to see. These brothers are all Republicans in politics, and although they have at all times taken an interest in the cause of good government, they have never been office-seekers, but have devoted the best of their time and energy toward making a success of their business.

James T. Pefley is a prominent member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. His success in life is not surprising to those who are familiar with his traits of character. In the extensive farming interest of the brothers he is considered the head, and it has been his executive ability as well as his active service that has made their farm what it now is,—a credit to the township, the county, and the state.

ATHANIEL D. STURM, a well-known farmer living in Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Barbour county, West Virginia, in 1852, and is a son of William Sturm. William Sturm was born in Virginia, and was a miller by trade. In 1866, he located in Kansas, where he lived until the time of his death.

Nathaniel D. Sturm, the subject of this sketch, moved with his parents to Illinois, when he was but a child. There he received

his schooling, and remained until May 31, 1866, when his father moved to Kansas. Mr. Sturm lived with his parents until 1882, when he located in sections 22 and 23, Neosho township, Labette county. He has resided there since that time, being engaged in the tilling of the soil. He has always followed the occupation of a farmer, and his career in Kansas has been marked with success. He is a man of honest, upright character, and is always willing to assist in any movement which is for the good of the community. By his genial, friendly manners he has won many friends.

Mr. Sturm married Donia Dunn, and they have reared three children: William; May, deceased; and Ruth. Mr. Sturm built a nine-room frame house in 1900, and made several improvements on the farm. He also owns 80 acres of land in section 26, the part known as the old Dunn farm. In addition to this, he owns 30 acres south of his present home. In politics, Mr. Sturm is an independent voter. He has served on the school board for the past nineteen years. He belongs to the A. O. U. W., McCune Lodge, No. 70, and to the Anti-Horsethief Association. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church.

**J**OHN P. CARES. Among the well-known agriculturists residing in Labette county is the gentleman whose name heads this biography. He is one of the foremost farmers in the county, and is a progressive, public-spirited man. Mr. Cares was born in Pennsylvania, in 1841, and is a son of Daniel and Nancy (Baker) Cares.

Daniel Cares was born in Pennsylvania, and was a butcher by trade. He married Nancy Baker, who was also a native of Penn-

sylvania, and they were the parents of 10 children: William; Conard; John P., the subject of this sketch; James; Daniel; Charles; Catherine; Christiana; Susan; and Sarah.

John P. Cares, the subject of this sketch, was reared and schooled in Pennsylvania, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. He moved to Kansas in 1872, and located on his present farm in Neosho township, the northeast quarter of section 30. Mr. Cares has a thorough knowledge of farming matters, and is an energetic, thrifty man. He married Anna Powell, who was born in Virginia, but was reared in Ohio. Her father was Jacob Powell. Four children have resulted from this union, and their names are: Wilbur; Willard; Glenn; and Carrie M. Mr. Cares is a member of the Democratic party. He belongs to the Home Builders' Union, Montana Lodge, No. 4.

**W**ILLIAM O'HERIN, the popular and efficient superintendent of the machinery and equipment department of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, has ably filled that position since 1896, with headquarters at Parsons, Kansas. Mr. O'Herin has followed railroad-ing since early boyhood. He is a native of Wyoming county, New York, where he was born in 1848. In adopting a railroad career, he followed in the footsteps of his father, who was also a railroader.

Mr. O'Herin located at Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, in 1873. He was there employed as a locomotive engineer on the "Katy," and ran at that time over the entire system on specials, pay cars, etc. He continued as engineer until 1886, when promo-

tion followed and he became master mechanic, a position now held by W. H. Brehm. He continued to serve in that capacity for ten consecutive years, when further honors were bestowed upon him in the form of the superintendence of the machinery and equipment department.

Mr. O'Herin is a thorough railroader, besides being a most skilled machinist. He fully comprehends the responsibilities and manifold duties connected with his position, which is of vital importance, as the mechanical operation of the entire system depends upon his action. Having worked his way from the bottom of the ladder, he readily understands the requirements of every branch of the work under his control, and gives his personal attention to even the smallest details. He is a favorite among his men, and is esteemed by his employers, who appreciate his fidelity to the system.



**J** H. TERWILLEGER, one of the pioneer settlers of Labette county, Kansas, is at present living in section 36, township 32, range 17, in Mound Valley township. He is a native of Hamilton county, Ohio, and was born in 1820.

Matthias Terwilleger, his father, was a native of Pennsylvania. He located in Hamilton county, Ohio, very early in life, and during the War of 1812 served as a drum-major, under Gen. William Henry Harrison, participating in all his battles except the one at Tippecanoe. Mr. Terwilleger worked on the river, built his own boats, and made nine trips on a flatboat to New Orleans. This was before steamboats were used. He was a judge of the court, for twelve years, during his residence in

Indiana, and was reelected the year of his death. He died in that state, October 9, 1843, at the age of fifty-two years. He married Letitia Shanklin, who died when the subject hereof was an infant.

J. H. Terwilleger, the subject of this sketch, was reared by his grandmother, after his mother's death. He had one sister,—Martha Jane,—who died in Marion county, Indiana, in 1886. In 1848 the subject hereof moved to Warren county, Iowa, where he ran a steam grist-mill at Hartford. In the spring of 1856 he moved to Marion county, Iowa, where he farmed until 1869. Previous to that, in 1857, Mr. Terwilleger had made a trip to Kansas, where he had voted for the Free State constitution. In 1869 he located in the northwest quarter of section 9, township 33, range 18, southwest of Mound Valley. He lived there until 1878. There were but two other families near, the Roberts and Wells. In 1878 Mr. Terwilleger bought his present home in Mound Valley township. His son and stepdaughter own 160 acres of this farm. Mr. Terwilleger made all of the improvements on the property. When he located there, there was but a shell of a house, a shed stable and a hedge. Parker, Oswego and Parsons were the first towns of the county, and Parker was considered the best. There were many Indians about at that time. Mr. Terwilleger paid 30 cents per pound for meat, and from 50 to 60 cents a bushel for turnips. Beets were \$1.00 per bushel, while butter brought 40 cents per pound. Mr. Terwilleger has a large gourd, which holds three pecks. The seeds of this gourd were sold for 10 cents apiece. He has one of the best improved farms in the county, and is highly spoken of as a farmer of much ability and knowledge.

In September, 1845, Mr. Terwilleger was

married, in Indiana, to Mary Griffin. She died in 1856, leaving three children,—Margaret C. (Shields); Mary E. (Steele), who lives near the state line, on a farm; and Harvey, who lives across the road, east of his father's farm. Mr. Terwilleger married, secondly, Mrs. Lavina Smith (nee Haigler). She was born in Pendleton county, West Virginia, in 1843, and is a daughter of John and Phoebe (Skidmore) Haigler. She was reared in Virginia, and there married Mr. Smith, who died in 1871; they had one daughter,—Phoebe,—now the wife of Mr. Terwilleger's son, Harvey. Harvey Terwilleger and his wife are the parents of five children: Charles M.; Leora B.; John H.; Leota Marie; and James Morl. Mr. Terwilleger's wife came to Labette county in 1873, and resided with her sister, Mrs. Kile, until her marriage with Mr. Terwilleger. They had one daughter,—Anna Rebecca, who died, October 20, 1895, at the age of fifteen years.

Politically, Mr. Terwilleger is a Republican. He has served as school treasurer, and his son, Harvey, has been treasurer of School District No. 68 for twelve years. Mr. Terwilleger belongs to the German Brethren church, although he and his wife were raised in the Dunkard faith.



RS. SARAH T. WALCOTT, widow of Wallace Walcott, has displayed superior business ability in the management of her farm in section 28, North township, Labette county, Kansas. She has a neat and well cultivated property, and is engaged in general farming.

Mrs. Walcott was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, in 1846, and is a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Yocum) Wynn. Her father was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylv-

ania, and her mother was also a native of that state. They were parents of the following children: Azariah, deceased; Margaret; Tobias, deceased; Josiah, Susanna, Joseph, all deceased; John; Isaac, deceased; Rachel; Amos; and Sarah T.

Sarah T. Wynn lived in Pennsylvania until she reached the age of seventeen years, when she moved to Washington county, Ohio. There she resided until 1884, when she came to Labette county, Kansas, with her husband. She was united in marriage with Wallace Walcott, who was born in Washington county, Ohio, in 1834, and was a son of E. and Caroline (McClure) Walcott, both natives of Ohio. He was one of 13 children, as follows: Oscar; Wallace; Louis; Amanda; Salome; Vesta; Rollin; Edmond; Corwin; Helen; Mary; Katie; and Ida. Wallace Walcott operated a sawmill in Ohio for many years. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted, in 1864, as a captain in Company K, 148th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf. He came west to Labette county, Kansas, in 1884, and for a number of years was a contractor in Parsons. He was a trustee of North township one term, and was also school director and treasurer. He died on February 2, 1894. Mrs. Walcott is located in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 28, North township, and has just completed a handsome new home on the old farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Walcott became parents of the following children: Addie (Huling), who lives at Dewey, Indian Territory; Addison, a student at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa; Elmer, who now lives in Ohio; Carrie, who is living at home and teaches school at South Mound, Neosho county; Louis D., a carpenter at Parsons, Kansas; Olive, who resides in Parsons; William H., a mail carrier at Parsons; and Belle, who is at

home. Religiously Mrs. Walcott is a member of the Society of Friends, but as there is no organization of that denomination in the county she attends the M. E. church.

---



A. ALEXANDER, deceased, was for many years a prominent citizen of Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas.

He was born in Pennsylvania, and was a son of William and Elizabeth Alexander, who were also natives of that state.

When Mr. Alexander was but one year old his parents moved to Ohio, and his early life was spent on his father's farm. He attended the common schools of the county. In 1877 he removed to Chetopa, Kansas, where he acted as general agent for the Standard Oil Company, and supplied Chetopa and several other surrounding towns with oil. He also conducted the Ohio Hotel at Chetopa for several years. In 1890 he bought a farm in Hackberry township, which his widow recently sold. He also owned some town property in Chetopa. This Mrs. Alexander has traded for her present home in Richland township, on which she has made many improvements. The barns and house are new, and the place is one of the most desirable in the county. Mrs. Alexander has successfully carried on general farming since her husband's death, and has shown superior management and good executive ability in so doing. Her husband's death was greatly mourned in Chetopa and the vicinity, as he was a man of genial and pleasing personality, and had many friends in the county.

Mr. Alexander was united in marriage with Caroline A. Haines, who was born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1837. She is a daughter of

Hutson and Sarah (Foster) Haines, and is one of six children, the others being: Wesley; John Nelson; Thomas; Jedaiah; and Annie (Carter), who lives in Ohio. Mr. Haines followed farming all his life, and was very successful.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander's union was blessed with four daughters, whose names are: Sarah Elizabeth; Mary Ann; Minta; and Blanche. Sarah Elizabeth (Chatman) was born in Ohio; her husband is in the milling business in Colorado, and they have four boys. Mary Ann (Pace) lives in Parsons, Kansas, and has one son and one daughter. Minta (Williams) lives seven miles west of her mother's farm. Blanche (Buckley) lives with her mother, and has one son,—William.

Mr. Alexander was a Democrat, in politics. Fraternally, he was a Mason and belonged to the lodge at Chetopa. Mrs. Alexander attends the Methodist church at Chetopa. She is well known in that city, and has many warm friends throughout the county.

---



ESSE W. MARLEY, cashier of the Oswego State Bank from its organization, is one of the foremost business men of Labette county, Kansas, where he has resided since 1878. He is a man of recognized ability, and of broad and liberal views, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens to a marked degree. He was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, January 31, 1853, and is a son of Henry A. and Elizabeth (Stout) Marley. He is a grandson of Alfred Marley, of North Carolina, who moved to Indiana.

Henry A. Marley was born in North Carolina in 1830, and was a small boy when he



moved with his father to Morgan county, Indiana, where he spent his early days. He has followed farming all his days and owned 600 acres of land in Hendricks county, Indiana, which he sold when he moved to Oswego, Kansas, where he now lives in retirement. He was a member of the firm of Marley & Marley, who operated a private bank which was merged into the Oswego State Bank, in 1887. He was married to Elizabeth Stout, a daughter of Jesse and Malinda (Hobson) Stout. Mrs. Marley's mother came from the same ancestry as Lieutenant Hobson, one of the heroes of the Spanish-American War. Jesse Stout and Alfred Marley were both early settlers of Hendricks county, Indiana. Mrs. Marley died in 1864 at the age of thirty years, leaving two children, namely: Jesse W.; and Luther W., who now resides in Kansas City, Kansas.

Jesse W. Marley obtained his primary education in the district schools of his native county, after which he took a preparatory course at De Pauw University, and a two years collegiate course in the same institution. In 1877 he went to Chattanooga, Tennessee, but, owing to the prevalence of yellow fever, in the fall of 1878 came to Oswego, Kansas. In 1880 the private bank of Marley & Marley was established, consisting of himself and father. In 1887 the bank was incorporated, and has since been known as the Oswego State Bank,—Mr. Marley having served as cashier from its beginning. He has a thorough understanding of the banking business and has discharged the duties of his office in a highly satisfactory manner.

In 1883 Jesse W. Marley was married to Julia Weir, who was a daughter of Dr. Weir. She died in 1884, leaving one child, Louise. In 1887 he formed a second marital union, the bride being Margaret B. Belt, who was born

in Fleming county, Kentucky, and is a daughter of John F. and Mary Belt. She received her early education at North Middletown, Kentucky, and then became a student in the Boston Conservatory of Music, from which institution she was graduated. She has the reputation of being the finest pianist in Southern Kansas. She taught somewhat while at the conservatory, and also after her graduation. In 1886 she accepted a position as instructress of music in the Holden Conservatory of Music, at Holden, Kansas. She has continued her work since marriage, and has always had a large class of students from the surrounding towns, her accomplishments as an instructress equaling her brilliancy as a pianist. Mr. Marley is a Republican in politics, and served in the city council for several years. He was mayor of the city one term, and has been a member of the board of education, and of the county central committee several terms; he was chairman of the latter body during one term. He was the nominee of the Republican party for the state legislature in 1900.

**D**AVID URIAH WATSON, a well known farmer, and old settler of Labette county, Kansas, has lived in Richland township, in the southwest quarter of section 21, township 34, range 21, since 1866. He was born in Pike county, Illinois, August 1, 1845, and is a son of J. C. and Serena (Thomas) Watson.

J. C. Watson was born in Ohio, where he followed the occupation of a farmer, and afterward moved to Illinois. He lived there some time and then journeyed to Labette county, in 1867. He took up a claim near that of his son's, where he lived until the time of his death.







J. F. RUSSELL.

in 1888, at the age of sixty-eight years. His wife died in 1885, aged sixty-two years. They reared nine children, namely: J. N., a widower, who went to California in 1872, and is now a stockman, with headquarters at San Francisco; David Uriah, of whom this narrative treats; Charles, a farmer living near Mound Valley; Milton, who lives in Shasta county, California, and is a stockman; George, a resident of Richland township; L. D., a stockman, of Colorado; Mary C. (Craig), who died in 1875; Ida J. (McGraw), a resident of Los Angeles, California; and Ella M. (Dixon), of Oswego township, Labette county.

David U. Watson attended the common schools of his native county, in Illinois, and in 1864 entered the army, serving in the 143d Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. He offered his services at the outbreak of the war, but was rejected on account of his age. He served one year, and was mustered out at Mattoon, Illinois, in 1865. Mr. Watson then removed to Labette county, Kansas, in 1866, and entered the land on which he now resides. He built a log house 14 feet square, and lived in it until he erected a comfortable home, which was burned in 1894. The family were obliged to live in the granary until their new home was completed, April 15, 1895. The house is a large, nine-room structure, and adds greatly to the attractive appearance of the place. Kansas City and Springfield, Missouri, were the only settled towns in this section of the country when Mr. Watson located in Labette county, and all the products raised on the farm were sold to new comers. David U. Watson also owns lands in Cherokee county. He carries on diversified farming, and is very successful. Mr. Watson's brother, J. N., was the first sheriff elected in the county.

Mr. Watson was united in marriage with

Elizabeth Henry, in Illinois, and this union has been blessed with four children, namely: Gertie (Harre), of Cherokee county, Kansas, who has two children,—Wayne and Lenet; Ivan C., who lives at home; and Ethel and Arthur, who are also at home. The school-house of District No. 5 is on the corner of Mr. Watson's farm. He is one of the directors, and has never missed attending a meeting since its organization in 1867, which is a record of which to be proud.

Politically, Mr. Watson is a staunch Republican, and has served as township trustee at two different times. He was elected county commissioner in 1892, to succeed Mr. Cooper, and served one term. He has been a member of the school board for eighteen years. Fraternally, Mr. Watson is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge, at Chetopa, and of the G. A. R. In religious views, he is a Methodist, and was one of the original 13 who organized the church society at Chetopa. Mr. Watson has a large number of friends in Chetopa and the township, and is an active worker in matters pertaining to the good of the county.



F. RUSSELL, a popular passenger engineer on the Junction City division of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, with headquarters at Parsons, Kansas, is a veteran on that system, and has the distinction of being, in years of service, next to the oldest engineer now stationed in Parsons. In this respect David Dunham claims first honors.

Mr. Russell was born in Venango county, Pennsylvania, December 13, 1843. He is a son of R. S. and Sarah (Johnson) Russell, both of whom were natives of London, England. His father, who was a blacksmith, late

in life went west to the home of J. F. Russell, in Parsons, where he spent his last days, and peacefully passed away in 1887, at the advanced age of seventy-six years. Mr. Russell's mother died at his home, January 7, 1887, when seventy-eight years of age. This aged couple reared five sons and one daughter. Those besides J. F. were: George, of Franklin, Pennsylvania; Robert H., a merchant of Hillyard, Washington; Mrs. Sophia McCune, of Pennsylvania, and M. M., of Pueblo, Colorado, both deceased; and Frank B., an engineer on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, at Parsons, Kansas.

Mr. Russell attended the common schools of Pennsylvania. His first manual labor was performed in the oil regions, where he assisted in drilling and working about oil wells. In 1867, he decided upon a railroad life, and immediately entered the service of the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad Company as a fireman on locomotives, at Meadville, Pennsylvania. He worked as a fireman until 1869, when he was promoted to be an engineer, and ran different engines on that system for two years.

In January, 1872, he came west to Labette county, Kansas, having but \$20 with him upon his arrival at Parsons. On January 20th, of the same year, he entered the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, whose interests are still identified with his own. After serving several years in the freight department, he was promoted to the passenger service in 1875, on the Cherokee Division, and is now a passenger engineer, pulling trains between Parsons and Junction City. He makes three trips one week, and two the following week, running opposite Engineers John Reilly and David Dunham. Mr. Dunham has served as engin-

eer on the system ever since June 20, 1869.

Mr. Russell has been very successful in his career, both financially and otherwise. He is quite an extensive property owner in Parsons. He erected the brick block on Johnson avenue, which is now occupied by the Flynn & Morris Clothing Company, and is one of the finest blocks in the city. He also purchased a fine residence property at 2211 Washington avenue, where he still resides. He owns a similar house at the corner of Crawford avenue and Twenty-third street, which he leases.

Mr. Russell has been twice married. His first union was with Margaret Guisler, of Pennsylvania, who died February 1, 1875. An infant son, Alfred, followed her to the grave, six months later. They had previously lost their first two children, namely: Thomas, who died when eighteen months old; and Harriet, who lived but six months. All are buried at Parsons. The second marriage of our subject was contracted at Meadville, Pennsylvania, with Elizabeth Clemson. They have one child, Helen, born in August, 1891.

In political preferences, Mr. Russell is a Republican, and has frequently refused the requests of his friends to run for office, his time being fully occupied by his business. He is a valued member of Division No. 179, B. of L. E., of Parsons, and has served as its chief. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, which he joined in Pennsylvania. He is now a member of both the blue lodge and commandery, of Parsons. He belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Lodge No. 1, of Parsons. The family attend the M. E. church.

Although Mr. Russell has had a very successful and fortunate career, he has experienced a few frights and accidents. On one oc-

casion he was held up at Leliaetta, Indian Territory, by the "Dalton gang," who "went through" the express car. He had a head-end collision at Oswego, and was once slightly injured at Chetopa. Neither accident was attributable to him, and no one was killed. A portrait of Mr. Russell accompanies this sketch, being presented on a foregoing page.



F. FOSTER. The gentleman whose name heads this record is a highly esteemed and respected citizen of Labette county, Kansas, and stands in the front rank of the representative agriculturists of Labette township, of which he is a pioneer settler. He is an ideal farmer, and owns a fine farm. It consists of the north half of the southeast quarter of section 23, Labette township. Mr. Foster has been a farmer all his life, with the exception of a short time spent at railroad work. Mr. Foster is one of three children born to O. H. and Laura (Bobbitt) Foster.

O. H. Foster, who is a farmer, was born in Virginia in 1826, and came from a prominent Virginia family. His wife is also a native of the same state. Their children are George B., F. F. and Emma. George B. is a minister of the Gospel and is at the present writing connected with the University of Chicago.

F. F. Foster was born in 1858 in West Virginia, where he attended the common schools. When twenty-two years old he began to make his own way in the world, and started in quest of a more suitable location. He drifted into the West, and finally joined a party of surveyors. These he assisted, during a period of eighteen months, in surveying

the Santa Fe railroad route through the state of Texas. In 1882 he came to Kansas, and spent the following year in the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company. He then began farming, which has been his life work. Being greatly pleased with the state of Kansas, Mr. Foster decided to locate here permanently, and with that intent purchased his present farm in Labette county, in 1895. There he has carried on general farming and stock raising ever since. He has improved and beautified his farm, and it is now in a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Foster was united in marriage with Cora Lane, who was born in Illinois in 1870. One son, Dwight, blesses their home. In politics, the subject of this sketch is an ardent Populist, and is now serving his second term as trustee of Labette township, having also served as clerk. He is a valued member of Altamont Lodge, No. 244, I. O. O. F., and also of Altamont Lodge, Woodmen of the World. Mr. Foster is enterprising and progressive, and is deeply interested in the welfare and development of his county; he is an honest, up right citizen, a good neighbor, and commands the respect of the entire community.



BENJAMIN F. ASBELL is one of the most extensive land owners in Labette county, Kansas, and is living in section 18, township 34, range 21, in Richland township. He was born in Estill county, Kentucky, in 1837, and is a son of Pierce and Maria (Bryson) Asbell.

Pierce Asbell was born in Kentucky in 1800, and removed to Missouri in 1838, where he carried on farming for fifty years, and died in 1894 in that state. He married Maria

Bryson, who was born in Kentucky, in 1808, and whose death occurred in Missouri, in 1890. They reared 10 children, namely: Tyree, aged seventy-three years, who lives in Missouri; Emily (McPeak), also of Missouri; John, deceased; Mary (Clark), who lives in the Indian Territory,—her husband having been a soldier, who died in Kansas, in 1900; Benjamin F.; William, who died in Wyoming, in September, 1900; Mahala (Suttee), deceased; Cassandra (Bolin), of Missouri; Pierce, Jr., who died in Missouri, aged twenty years; and Salina (Anderson), who died in 1896 in Oregon.

Benjamin F. Asbell was reared and schooled in Missouri, where he remained until he attained the age of twenty-four years. On February 12, 1862, he enlisted in the 8th Reg., Mo. Vol. Cav., under Colonel Gravelly, later Governor of Missouri. He served two years as a private, and was mustered out at Springfield, Missouri. Although he was not seriously wounded during his active service, his eyes have been affected ever since, and he has been compelled to wear glasses. Mr. Asbell returned to Missouri, where he remained one season, and then removed to Labette county, Kansas, August 12, 1866. He bought his present home in Richland township, and has added to it ever since. He now owns 1,300 acres of land, and is one of the most prosperous farmers in this section of the state. He employs from three to five men constantly, and is often obliged to hire more to assist him. In 1867 he set out an orchard, and now has about 25 acres of fruit trees. Mr. Asbell replaced the claim cabin with substantial dwellings of brick and frame, and the general appearance of the farm bespeaks the thrift and energy of its owner. Mr. Asbell is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and has used great judg-

ment and care in the management of his farm.

Mr. Asbell was united in marriage with Salina McMaster, who died in 1894. She left one son, who is now serving a life sentence in the state penitentiary. He was convicted through an excited popular opinion, and by a prejudiced jury, for the supposed fatal shooting of his wife. The act of the jury in this case was greatly deplored, as Marion Asbell was well liked and had many friends. It is generally believed that his wife committed suicide, and Mr. Asbell is making every exertion to obtain a pardon for his son. This case only reveals another victim of circumstantial evidence, which has been the cause of many wrecked lives.

Mr. Asbell was a Republican in political views, until the last election, and since that time has been independent. He is a highly respected citizen of Labette county, and has given aid to many public enterprises.



WILLIAM WIDMER, a well known contractor and farmer, living in section 34, North township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the most public spirited, progressive men of the county. He lives on his farm in North township, but his place of business is in Parsons, where he has an office on Johnson avenue. Mr. Widmer was born in the southern part of Germany in 1851, of German parentage.

Our subject's father, M. Widmer, was also a native of Germany. His wife was born in Germany, and they reared the following children: Jacob; George; William, the subject of this sketch; and John, deceased.

William Widmer spent his early boyhood in Germany, where he received his education.





MRS. MARY T. KNOUS.



He set sail for this country in 1867, and after reaching America settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he followed the trade of a cabinetmaker for a number of years. He then went to St. Louis, Missouri, where he lived until 1875. In that year he removed to Parsons, Kansas, and he has resided in the vicinity of the city ever since. Since first coming to Parsons he has bought his farm in North township, in the northwest quarter of section 34. He is engaged in general farming, and has been very successful. He does a large business as a contractor, and is considered a fine workman.

Mr. Widmer was united in marriage with Elizabeth Gates, and they have been blessed with the following children: Grace; Carrie, who is a teacher in the public schools of Parsons; Will; Harry; George; Earl; Albert; and Henry. Mr. Widmer has lived in Parsons for about twenty years, and he is well and favorably known throughout the county. He is an independent, in politics, and has served on the school board in North township for four years. He belongs to the A. O. U. W., Parsons Lodge, No. 1. Religiously, he is a member of the German Lutheran church. He has many warm friends in the county, where he is highly esteemed and respected for his honest, upright character.

**J**AMES E. RICE, a prominent and well known agriculturist of Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Washington county, Illinois, in 1859, and there resided until he came to Kansas with his father, in 1865. Although Labette county has been his home for the past twenty-two years, he has spent a number of years in traveling, chiefly in Missouri, Texas

and Colorado. Mr. Rice is a son of H. P. and Rebecca M. (Lyons) Rice.

H. P. Rice and his wife were born in Washington county, Illinois, and there began the journey of life as husband and wife. They came to Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, in 1865, and a year later the father of the family died. Six children were born, as follows: Francis; James E.; Julietta; Thomas; Clementine; and Lemuel.

James E. Rice, during youth, worked for three years at the printer's trade, and also learned to be a cooper. Mr. Rice located on his present farm, consisting of the east half of the southeast quarter of section 27, in 1879. He carries on general farming, and has succeeded very well; he enjoys an excellent reputation as an honest, upright citizen, and is highly respected by all in the community in which he lives.

Mr. Rice married Kate Grey, who was born in Clinton county, Illinois, in 1859. He is a Democrat in politics and is a justice of the peace of Neosho township; he has served on the school board for four years.

**D**ANIEL R. KNOUS. This much-respected pioneer citizen of Labette township, Labette county, Kansas, has been identified with the interests of the county for a third of a century and has long been recognized as one of its best citizens.

Mr. Knous was born in Pennsylvania, in 1849. His father, John Knous, was a native of that state, and was born in 1809. He followed farming until his career was cut off by death in 1864. He married Rebecca Scarbrough, who was born in Pennsylvania, in

1826. Seven children blessed their union, namely: George W., deceased; Elizabeth, wife of J. S. Adamson, a sketch of whom appears in this volume; Daniel R.; Mary; John F. and James F., miners in Colorado; and Alfred L., who married Clara Cooper, and resides in Colorado, and has four children, namely: Elizabeth; Lucile; and Mildred and Marion, twins. In 1867, Mrs. Knous married for her second husband M. J. Smith, of Ohio, who at the time of their union lived in Iowa. Two children were born to them: Riley and Emma.

In 1851, when Daniel R. Knous was but two years old, his parents removed to Ohio, where the boy was reared up to his thirteenth year and mentally trained. After his father's death, he accompanied his mother and other members of the family to Jasper county, Iowa, 45 miles east of Des Moines. In 1869, Mr. Knous came south to Kansas, and on October 6, of the same year, located upon the farm where he now lives. He remained on this farm until 1871, perfected his claim, and then went back to Iowa. He subsequently spent six years in Colorado, where several of his brothers had previously located. In 1887, he returned to his farm in Labette township, and has made his home there ever since. He has enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence of the people of his community. He has improved his farm in many ways, and it is in some respects a model for his neighbors. Politically, he is a staunch Republican, and has wielded a powerful influence in his section. He is a valued member of Parsons Lodge, No. 1, A. O. U. W., and of the Anti-Horse-thief Association, Lodge No. 183. He was joined in marriage with Mary B. Thornburgh, who has been his faithful helpmeet for many

years. She is a native of Hagerstown, Indiana, where she was born in 1859.

Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Knous, executed from recent photographs, are shown on a page in proximity to this.



GEORGE W. HARDMAN, a well known farmer, residing in section 4, North township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the active and progressive citizens of the county, and is widely known in the community in which he lives. Mr. Hartman was born in Gilmer county, West Virginia, in 1833, and is a son of Thomas and Rebecca (Goff) Hardman.

Thomas Hardman was a native of West Virginia, his birth occurring in Randolph county. His wife was also a native of that state. They reared the following children, namely: Nancy; Julia; William; Darlis; John; Christiana; George W.; S. S.; and J. E.

George W. Hardman was eight years old when his parents moved to Jackson county, West Virginia. There he followed farming for a number of years, and in 1865 moved to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he remained two years. In the fall of 1867 he went to Clay county, Missouri, where he was occupied in farming until the spring of 1870. His next and final move was to Kansas, where he bought the northwest quarter of section 4, North township, Labette county. This place has been his home ever since, and he has made many warm friends in the county. He has been a faithful and conscientious worker, and his neat and attractive home shows the result of his labor.

Mr. Hardman married Elizabeth Eye, in 1851. She was born in 1828, and was a daugh-

ter of Reuben and Sarah (Rexford) Eye. She died April 24, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Hardman reared the following children: Rebecca; Sallie; J. M.; Lennox; N. W.; J. H., deceased; Harriet; and Mollie. Mr. Hardman is a Democrat in politics. He belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association.

**I**N. ANDERSON. This gentleman is the well known undertaker and furniture dealer of Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas. He was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, in 1848, and is a son of William Anderson.

William Anderson was born near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and was raised on the frontier. He was of Scotch descent, and followed the occupation of a farmer most of his life, and also conducted a brick manufacturing plant. He died in Pennsylvania, in 1889. Mr. Anderson married Hannah Sowash, who was of German descent. She also died in Pennsylvania. They reared nine children, who, with the exception of I. N. and a daughter, live in Pennsylvania.

I. N. Anderson was educated in the common schools of his native county, and when young was apprenticed to a painter at Sharon, Pennsylvania. Later he established a shop at that place where he did all kinds of painting, finishing and sign writing. He located in Chetopa in 1880, and engaged in business. In 1885 he entered into partnership with A. P. Free, his brother-in-law. They bought the stock belonging to Mr. McIntyre, and conducted the furniture business together for some time. Then Mr. Anderson bought Mr. Free's interest, and Mr. Free went into the grocery

business. He is now mayor of Chetopa. In 1895 Mr. Anderson erected his present fine building on Maple street. This building is 24 by 70 feet in dimensions, and two stories high. Mr. Anderson occupies the entire building. He is a graduate of the Kansas Undertakers' Association, and is thoroughly competent to handle the business which has been his since entering this store. He carries a full line of furniture, and has a large patronage, including that from the Cherokee and other Indian nations. He employs one man constantly to assist him, and during his busiest seasons often hires more. Mr. Anderson is honest and upright in his business methods, and by his genial and pleasant manners has won many patrons and friends.

Mr. Anderson was married, in Pennsylvania, to Sarah E. Ray, who died one year later, leaving a daughter,—Eva (Horn). Mrs. Horn has two children. She was reared by her grandmother, and in 1890 went to Chetopa, where she graduated from the high school, after which she returned to Pennsylvania. Mr. Anderson's second wife's maiden name was Nancy E. Free. This union resulted in the birth of one child, who died in July, 1881.

In politics Mr. Anderson is a strong Republican, and his father was one of the successful managers of the "underground railroad." Mr. Anderson raised his first flag for John C. Fremont. He has been a member of the city council for two years. Fraternally, he has been financier of the A. O. U. W. lodge since 1887, and V. C. of the M. W. of A., over four years. He is also a member of the K. of P., of Chetopa. Religiously, he favors the United Presbyterian church. Mr. Anderson has erected a fine house in Chetopa, and is looked upon by all as one of the most enterprising and loyal of its citizens.

**J**OHAN A. McCAW, an old settler of Richland township, Labette county, Kansas, living in the northwest quarter of section 29, township 34, range 21, was born October 10, 1856, in Laporte county, Indiana. He is a son of John and Annie (Smith) McCaw.

John McCaw was born in Ireland, and was reared in England. His father was a very successful physician, who died in South America. Dr. J. C. Ayer, a well known physician of Lowell, Massachusetts, was an uncle of John McCaw. The father of the subject hereof located in Labette county in the spring of 1868. He was accompanied by his son, Bruce, and they settled on Deer Creek, where they built a house. They sold this house and land for \$300 to a stranger, who, odd to relate, was never seen after paying for the place, and the land was taken up by another party. Mr. McCaw then purchased the southeast quarter of section 16, township 34, range 21,—the 120 acres lying just north of the present Labette Creek bridge, on the Chetopa-Oswego wagon road, and 40 acres of railroad land. This home place is owned jointly by the seven sons, of whom John A. McCaw is one. There Mr. McCaw remained until his death, which occurred in 1895, at the age of sixty-nine years. He married Annie Smith, who was born in Canada, and when young accompanied her mother to Providence, Rhode Island, where she married Mr. McCaw. She died in Labette county, aged thirty-eight years. They reared seven sons, namely: John A.; Bruce, who is in partnership with his brother, William, the owner of a stock ranch in Colorado; Wallace, a farmer in Colorado; Thomas, who is on the home farm in Richland township; William; Edwin, a farmer and stock dealer, who is at present in the Indian Territory; and Walter,

who lives in Hackberry township, Labette county.

John A. McCaw lived in Indiana until he was thirteen years old, when he moved to Labette county. He was a classmate of Miss M. Nellie McGinley, who is superintendent of the Chetopa city schools. His first teacher was Jesse Morgan. In 1877 Mr. McCaw left home and worked about for some time, and in 1880 went to Colorado, where he spent three years,—mainly employed in running a pack train. In 1883 he returned to Labette county, and in the summer of that year went to the Indian Territory, where he worked in a sawmill near Coody's Bluff, on Big Creek. After six or eight months' employment there he returned to Labette county, where he purchased in Richland township 120 acres of land in section 15, township 34, range 21. He broke and improved this land, and in the later "eighties" sold this farm, and bought his present one, which is the northwest quarter of section 29, township 34, range 21, which was first claimed by Mr. Williams. Mr. McCaw has made extensive improvements on the land, and has 11 acres of orchard. He follows general farming and stock raising, breeding a high grade of Shorthorn cattle and Berkshire hogs, among which he has several thoroughbreds. The water supply on his farm is fine, the wells being shallow. Mr. McCaw is very well pleased with the success which has attended his farming career in Labette county.

In 1882 the subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Harriet L. Gordon, who was born in Indiana in 1864. They have seven children, as follows: Clyde; Ethel; Carroll; Lottie and Louis, twins; Elsie; and Myrtle. In politics, Mr. McCaw is a Populist. He has served as a member of the school board in District No. 5. He is a member of the new







RESIDENCE OF M. H. GRAY.

order—the Home Builder's Union,—of which J. S. Hileman, of Edna, is supreme master builder. In religious views Mr. McCaw is liberal, giving his support to all churches.



H. GRAY, a picture of whose residence is shown on the opposite page, is a well-known farmer living in Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, on the southeast quarter of section 14, township 34, range 19. He was born at Parkville, New Jersey, in 1833, and is a son of Jesse and Mary (Fitch) Gray. Jesse Gray was born in New Jersey, in 1789, and was a blacksmith by trade. He married Mary Fitch, who was also a native of New Jersey, and they reared 10 children, all of whom are deceased except M. H., the subject of this sketch.

When Mr. Gray was but four years old, his parents removed to Butler county, Ohio, and there Mr. Gray received his mental training. He learned to till the soil, and followed the occupation of a farmer in that county until 1868. In that year, he removed to Johnson county, Missouri, where he farmed for eight years. He then returned to Ohio, and after remaining there four years came to Kansas. He arrived in Labette county February 22, 1879, and located on his present farm in Elm Grove township. He has been a very successful farmer, and has also raised considerable stock. Mr. Gray is a man of sound business judgment, and is a careful manager.

Mr. Gray was united in marriage with Christiana Hinckley, who was born in Franklin county, Indiana, in 1842. She is a daughter of Dr. J. Hinckley, who practiced medi-

cine for fifty years, and died when seventy-five years old. Dr. Hinckley married Elvira Hazleton, who was a native of New York, and they were the parents of ten children. Those now living are as follows: Emily O.; Mary C.; Adeline; Armanilla; Herschel D.; and Christiana.

Mr. Gray and his wife have had seven children, namely: Lillie, deceased; Jesse H.; Gertrude, deceased; Herschel H.; Gordon D.; Oscar M.; and Edith. Mr. Gray is a member of the Republican party. He has served on the school board in his district for three years. In religious attachment, both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Gray is one of the most actively interested workers in Elm Grove township, and has many friends.



RS. MARGARET R. HARRIS, a highly esteemed resident of North township, Labette county, Kansas, has lived in her present home,—the southeast quarter of section 8,—for the past thirty years. She is widely known in the county, where for many years her husband was one of the leading farmers and dairymen. Mrs. Harris was born in Monroe county, Virginia, in 1850, and is a daughter of George and Dolly Ann (Schafter) Denney. Soon after the birth of Margaret R., the subject of this sketch, George Denney died, and his wife then moved to Cole county, Missouri, where Mrs. Harris was reared. Her mother died when she was three years old, leaving her an orphan. She lived with her grandfather for a short time, and then with her aunt, until 1864.

In 1869 the subject hereof was married to J. H. Harris. He was born in Rockbridge

county, Virginia, and died in October, 1900. He was an honest, upright citizen, worthy of the confidence reposed in him, and his friends in Labette county, where he lived for a number of years, were legion. Mrs. Harris has 11 children, namely: Charles, who now manages the farm; Mary V.; Minnie M.; Effie M.; Leona; Willie and Allie, twins; Susie J.; Lottie; Ellen; and Inez.

Charles Harris, the eldest son, is now thirty years old. He owns the concern known as the Virginia Dairy, which was conducted by his father for twenty years. Charles Harris is a member of the A. O. U. W., and also of the Anti-Horsethief Association.



R. HENRY LISLE, a retired physician and old resident of Labette county, was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1820. He is a son of James and Peninah (Doudna) Lisle.


James Lisle was born in Ohio, and died in 1824, at the early age of thirty-five years. He married Peninah Doudna, who was a native of North Carolina, and who died in 1863, aged seventy years. They were the parents of six children, namely: George; John; Joseph; Henry; Mary; and James. George, who is familiarly known as "Old Dr. Lisle," of Chetopa, enjoys the distinction of being the oldest resident of the county. He has a wonderful memory, and can recall many of the incidents which occurred in Labette county during the "sixties." John, aged eighty-four years, is a farmer, and lives in Iowa. Joseph, who was a farmer in Iowa, died in 1890. Mary (Hanson) died in Ohio, in 1866. James, a miller, by trade, died in Monroe county, Ohio, when he was a young man.

Dr. Henry Lisle remained at home until he reached his majority, and at the age of twenty-three years began the study of medicine with his brother, George. He spent four years with him, and practiced during the fourth year. He began practice alone in Powhatan county, Virginia, where he spent the greater part of seven years. He practiced eight years at Hunter, Ohio, near his old home, and four years at Murraysville, West Virginia. After spending three years at Queensville, Indiana, he removed to Labette county, and opened an office at Chetopa. He lived there two years and in 1871 moved on his farm in Richland township, which is the northwest quarter of section 5, township 35, range 21. This farm was in the Cherokee strip, the Osage line being the northern boundary. Dr. Lisle has made many improvements on his farm, and has a fine house. He has an orchard of five acres, and now owns 120 acres of land, although he formerly owned more. He has leased the land during the past few years,—being unable to work much,—but it is still under his management. Dr. Lisle keeps some stock,—favoring Shorthorn cattle.

Dr. Lisle married Sarah A. Conley, in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1849. She was born in Ohio, and was reared in that state and in Pennsylvania, where she spent several years. This union resulted in the birth of seven children, namely: David, who went to Florida in the fall of 1900, where he is engaged in the cultivation of pineapples; Mary, who is unmarried, and resides at home; Alice, the wife of E. M. Mairs, who lives near Chetopa, and has three children; James, a wealthy mine owner in the West; Lena (Williams), who lives five miles south of her father's place in the Indian Territory, and has two sons; Detta, who is at home; and Jessie A. (Greenough), whose hus-

band is a mining engineer at Cripple Creek, Colorado, and who has two daughters.

Dr. Lisle was originally a Whig, in politics, and is now a Republican. He has held the offices of treasurer and trustee of his township. He was raised a Quaker, but is now liberal in his religious views. He was made a Mason in Ohio, fifty-seven years ago, and is a member of the blue lodge at Chetopa. Dr. Lisle is a very intelligent man, and is considered one of the best physicians in the township.

 HARLES M. CONDON is widely known as one of the foremost business men of Labette county, and is one of the most public spirited citizens of Oswego, Kansas. He came to Oswego in 1868, has been closely identified with its growth, and has established and supported many of its most worthy public improvements. He conducts a private bank there, a mercantile concern, the city water works and the electric light plant, besides several other enterprises in different parts of Kansas, but gives his personal attention mainly to his banking interests in Oswego.

Mr. Condon was born in Schenectady county, New York, in 1843, and is the son of James and Mary (McCarthy) Condon. His father was a native of Ireland. He came to this country after his marriage, and settled in Schenectady county, New York, about 1840. He followed farming there until 1852, when he removed to DeKalb county, Illinois, where he continued farming until 1858. In that year he moved to Madison county, Iowa, where he resided until his death, in 1898, at the age of eighty-two years. In Ireland, he married Mary McCarthy, who died at an early age,

leaving four children: Thomas, deceased; Charles M.; James, deceased; and Mary (Couch), of Stewart, Iowa.

Charles M. Condon attended the public schools of DeKalb county, Illinois, and started out in the world on his own account, at the early age of fourteen years. In 1859, he went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he held a clerical position until 1862. He then enlisted in Company I, 18th Reg., Iowa Vol. Inf., and served with credit until the close of the war; he was discharged in August, 1865. Upon returning home from the war, he was engaged in farming in Warren county, Iowa, until 1868, the year of his removal to Labette county, Kansas. He located in Oswego, and was there successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1880, when he turned his attention to banking. He became associated with B. F. Hobart in the Hobart Bank, the name of which was changed to the Hobart & Condon Bank. In 1884, Mr. Condon became sole owner, and it has since been known as the private bank of C. M. Condon. He is a shrewd, sagacious business man, and his bank has always been a paying venture,—being on a firm financial basis. He has confined his personal attention to this business, although he is extensively interested in different enterprises, both in Oswego and other Kansas towns. In 1896, he established a general store in Oswego, in addition to which he owns other mercantile establishments, and two banks, elsewhere. He also owns the city water works and electric light plant, both of which are operated in accordance with modern ideas, and give to the city the best possible service. He came to this county without means, and the success of the many branches of business with which he has been identified reflects great credit on his ability.

Mr. Condon was married in 1867, to Mary

E. Beckel, and they are the parents of the following children: Geneva, Estella, Wilbur F., Wayne, Corinne, and Clifford. Geneva is Mrs. Ramsey, of Carthage, Missouri. Estella is Mrs. Maxwell, of Pittsburg, Kansas. Wilbur F., a graduate of the public schools of Oswego, and of Princeton University, is cashier of his father's bank. He married Wilmatte Baty. Wayne, who was educated in the schools of Oswego, and in a preparatory school at Lawrenceville, New Jersey, is engaged in mercantile business; he married Miss Harvey. Clifford is attending the Oswego schools.



E. STAIGE. This gentleman is the popular editor of the *Edna Sun*, and is one of the most influential citizens of that city. He was born on Christmas day, in 1859, near Burlington, Iowa, and is a son of J. E. Staige.

J. E. Staige was a native of Pickaway county, Ohio, and removed to Iowa, in 1839, soon after the trouble with the Indians had culminated in the Black Hawk War. He took up a homestead in Des Moines county, where he resided until 1882, when he came to Kansas. He carried on farming until his death, which occurred December 12, 1899. His wife was born at Circleville, Pickaway county, Ohio, and died January 3, 1894, aged sixty-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Staige were married in Louisa county, Iowa, and reared seven children, two of whom died in infancy. The names of the five living are: Sarah E. (Creighton), of Oakville, Iowa; Mary (Luckenbill), of Huron, Iowa; M. R., of Porterville, California; W. E., the subject of this sketch; and Joe, of Kinnison, Indian Territory.

W. E. Staige, whose name appears at the

opening of this personal sketch, received his primary education in Iowa, and in 1885 and 1886 attended a business college at Sedalia, Missouri. His first active business for himself was in the newspaper line. November 22, 1894, he established the *Edna Sun*, there being no other paper in Edna. His first office was north of his present location, over J. C. Arnold's grocery store in the brick block. Each year has brought an increase in business, and the *Sun* now has a circulation of 700, extending into the Indian Territory. This is exclusive of the foreign list, exchanges, etc. Mr. Staige has a plant worth \$1,200, runs two presses, and employs competent help. He is a well informed man, and keeps posted on all current topics.

Mr. Staige was married in Labette county to Jennie Rhodes, November 26, 1889. She died February 8, 1892. He formed a second union, January 6, 1896, Mrs. Warren Fullerton being the bride. They reside in a fine home in Edna, which is worth \$1,500. Mr. Staige is a strong Republican, and is at present serving as city clerk. He does not belong to any fraternities, nor is he a member of any church. Mr. Staige has been engaged in the real estate and insurance business with W. H. Pottorff, for the past six years, under the firm name of W. H. Pottorff & Company. No public enterprise is complete without Mr. Staige's assistance, which he gives readily, and he is one of Edna's most public spirited, active citizens. Mr. Staige is an ardent temperance worker and has devoted much of his time and money to assist in freeing his town from the blighting curse of the rum power. His paper, the *Sun*, has been given up largely in the past three years to fighting the "joint" evil and while he has made enemies his friends have increased in number, and he enjoys the confi-



dence and esteem of all with whom he comes in contact. He attributes his success and financial standing at the present time to the position taken by him in favor of the enforcement of the prohibitory laws, and to his close adherence to strict business principles.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men,

Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."



**J**OHN FRANCIS HOLTEN, a dealer in harness, at Edna, Labette county, Kansas, has been identified with the growth and development of that city for a number of years. He was born in Ripley county, Indiana, in 1865, and is a son of W. H. and Eliza J. (Hayden) Holten.

W. H. Holten was a native of Indiana, where he lived until 1881, when he removed to Labette county, Kansas, and died at the age of sixty years, in 1893. His wife, who now lives at Edna, aged sixty years, is also a native of Indiana. They reared the following children,—John Francis; Emmet P., deceased; Margaret, who lives at Colorado Springs, Colorado; Anna (Hoole) and Mattie, of Colorado Springs; and Bertha, who is a clerk in the Condon mercantile store at Edna. By a previous marriage with Miss B. Waggoner, W. H. Holten reared the following children: W. A., of Ripley county, Indiana; Vedantus, of Edna, Kansas; Calvin, deceased; H. L., of Elm Grove township; and Sarah J. (Brown).

John Francis Holten attended the schools at Edna, and later the county normal school, and studied one term at Parsons. Afterward, he taught in Labette county for four years. In 1891, he engaged in his present business,—carrying a general stock of harness, vehicles and saddlery. The building he first occupied

was destroyed by fire, in 1892, and a stock company was formed to erect the present building. Mr. Holten now owns the entire stock. He employs two men to assist him, and has a large patronage. Mr. Holten is a mechanic by trade. He does a first class business, and carries a fine line of goods. He deals honestly and openly with all, and has many friends in the county.

Mr. Holten married Jessie Keeler, who was born in Elm Grove township, and is a daughter of Capt. C. M. Keeler, an old settler of Labette county. She has two sisters here,—Mrs. Ida Martin, who is ex-county superintendent of schools, and Flora (Stone), who lives on a farm in Howard township. Two brothers reside at Gravett, Arkansas, and are engaged in the fruit business. Mr. and Mrs. Holten have one daughter,—Florence Esther,—aged five years.

Mr. Holten has a new home on Labette street. In politics, he is a firm Republican, has served in the city council, and is at present serving as city treasurer. He is district deputy grand master of Edna Lodge, No. 368, I. O. O. F. He is also banker of the Edna Camp, M. W. of A., and his wife is a member of both auxiliaries. Both are members of the Presbyterian church.



**J**OSEPH CRAFT, who has ably filled the office of postmaster of Chetopa, Kansas, since 1898, was born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, in 1848, and is a son of William and Mary (Armstrong) Craft.

William Craft was a native of Pennsylvania, and removed to Chetopa, Kansas, in 1867. He built the Chetopa House, which

hotel he conducted for a period of six or eight years. Mr. Craft was a farmer by occupation; he died in 1880, at the age of sixty years. His wife died in 1890, aged seventy-four years. They reared eight children: Edward, who died in the army; Anna Belle (James), who lives in Chetopa; Catherine (Grant), a widow who lives on a farm near Chetopa; Mary Ellen (Barker), who lives near Altamont; Sarah (Curry), who died in Indiana; Joseph; Jennie (Watson), who died in California; and William, a farmer and stock man, residing in the "strip."

Joseph Craft attended the common schools of his native state, and assisted his father on the farm for a number of years. October 20, 1867, he moved to Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas, where he has since lived. In 1875, Mr. Craft engaged in the grocery business, in which he continued until his first appointment to the office of postmaster. This term began in 1889 and ended in 1894. He then worked as clerk for Mrs. Flannelly, for two years, after which he was engaged in the shoe business until his second appointment as postmaster, which occurred May 5, 1898. This position he fills to the entire satisfaction of all, and the prospects are that he will hold this office for some time to come. Mr. Craft is a public spirited man, and takes an active interest in all public enterprises. He is a man of sound judgment and good principles, and has been very successful.

Mr. Craft was united in marriage with Lucy Rathborne, who was born at Salem Center, Meigs county, Ohio, where she was reared and schooled. Mr. and Mrs. Craft have seven children, namely: Mabel; Maude, who is the wife of E. S. Nance, assistant postmaster of Chetopa; Harry; Alla; Emma; Nellie; and Helen. Mr. Craft has built a very pleasant home

in Chetopa. He has always been a Republican in politics, has served two terms as councilman, and also on the board of education. Fraternally, he is a member of the A. O. U. W., M. W. of A., and K. of P. lodges. His wife is a member of the Pyramids, and Woman's Relief Corps. Religiously, Mr. Craft favors the Baptist church.



S. ANDERSON, a prominent and progressive real estate dealer of Parsons, Kansas, ranks among the pioneer settlers of Labette county, and claims the distinction of having been the first settler in School District No. 79, in Osage township. Mr. Anderson is a son of G. W. and Lavina (Clark) Anderson.

G. W. Anderson was born in Virginia and died in Illinois. His wife was born in Ohio, and died in Kansas in 1871. Of his ancestors, Mr. Anderson knows little, except that they were extensive stock raisers and traders in the East. One brother, James T., was killed during the siege of Vicksburg. He also had two sisters, Matilda and Cynthia, both of whom are deceased. His only living relatives with whom he has any personal acquaintance, are two nieces, one of whom resides in Oklahoma, and the other in Des Moines, Iowa.

Mr. Anderson was born in Schuyler county, Illinois, October 15, 1839. He obtained but a meager education in the district schools, after which he was engaged in farming pursuits until the Civil War broke out. Responding to his country's call for men, he enlisted in Company E, 14th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., and served from 1862 until the successful termination of that bitter conflict. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg, and participated in


Sherman's famous march to the sea. Although comrades fell thick about him and his brother was killed at his side, Mr. Anderson was not even wounded, and was mustered out of service at Beaufort, North Carolina, at the close of the war.

In 1868, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage with Elizabeth Purvines, who was born in Illinois, in 1847, and who died in the fall of 1871, in her native state. In 1868, Mr. Anderson came west, and in 1869, moved to Labette county, Kansas. On February 10, 1869, he located on the northwest quarter of section 31, township 31, range 18, in Osage township, having preempted 160 acres. The journey westward from Menard county, Illinois, was made in true emigrant style, in a covered wagon, with his companion by his side. After farming for twelve years in Osage township, he removed to Parsons, where he conducted a grocery store for several years and finally engaged in the real estate business in 1884. Since then he has devoted his entire time to buying and selling real estate. The first three years, J. Willard Walker was a partner in the business. Since then Mr. Anderson has conducted it alone, assisted only by his daughter, Helen. In 1889, his office was removed to its present location, over No. 1902 Johnson avenue. His home, however, is at 1930 Appleton avenue, where he built a fine, large residence.

Some time after removing to Labette county, Mr. Anderson contracted a second matrimonial alliance, Julia Glossop, an Ohioan by birth, but an Illinoisian, by adoption, became his wife. Six children were born to them, namely: Cora D., William T., Gertrude, Jessie E., Helen M., and Claude R. The last named two still brighten the home fireside. Cora D. married a Mr. Parsons, a railroad engineer at Parsons, Kansas; they have three

children,—Carl, Hazel, and Eugene. William T. has been a pressman in Chicago for the past five years. Gertrude married a Mr. Beever, of Joplin Missouri, and Jessie E. is now the wife of Mr. Cosatt, a prominent grocer of Parsons.

Mr. Anderson cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, but his sympathies are now with the Populists. He is a valued member of the Order of Select Friends, and of the G. A. R., Post No. 81, both of Parsons. Being a man of enterprise, he has always evinced a fitting interest in the welfare of his adopted home, and has held various positions of trust. He is largely interested in educational matters, and has served on the school board for several years. He enjoys the society of his family, around his own fireside, and unites with them in worshipping at the M. E. church, of which all are devout members. Altogether, he is a good and progressive citizen, and one whom Parsons could ill afford to lose.

EORGE P. BUSH, one of the most prosperous and progressive business men of Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas, is the proprietor of one of the most completely stocked drug stores in the county. He has been located here since 1877, and has a wide acquaintance throughout this section. He was born April 8, 1853, in Belvidere, Boone county, Illinois, and is a son of Oliver W. and Esther (Calender) Bush.

Oliver W. Bush was a prominent farmer and stockman of Scotland county, Missouri, whither he moved when George P. was quite young. He was at one time wealthy, and resided eight miles west of Memphis, Missouri,

but, being one of the only three Union men in that locality, was a heavy financial loser on account of the war. He was at one time almost forced to leave the country by the Secessionists. He subsequently moved to Kansas, and died at Concordia. His wife died in Scotland county, Missouri. They had three children: Emma, of Pennsylvania; George P.; and William E., who resides near Minneapolis, Minnesota.

George P. Bush was reared in Missouri, and first worked upon his father's farm. He learned the trade of a jeweler, and after moving to Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, in 1877, followed that trade for several years. He then embarked in the drug business at Oswego, where he conducted a store until 1886. He then moved to Chetopa, where he has since engaged in the same business with great success. He carries a very heavy stock of all goods in the drug line,—its value being upwards of \$10,000. Some years ago, he erected a fine brick building, 24 by 75 feet, in dimensions, with a warehouse in the rear 24 by 20 feet in size, and now has a handsomely equipped store. He owns a fine residence property in the city, located on Maple street, and also a good barn, located near town, and valued at \$5,000. He had very little means upon coming to this town, and his success has been attained almost wholly in Labette county.

Mr. Bush was united in marriage, at Oswego, to Clara Newlon, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Dr. Newlon. She is a graduate of Keokuk Medical College, and was engaged extensively in practice, at Chetopa, until the past year. This union resulted in one child, C. W. Bush, now nineteen years of age, who is in attendance at the Wentworth Military Academy at Lexington, Missouri,—he is also studying phar-

macy, and gets the necessary practical experience in his father's drug store. In politics, George P. Bush has always been a Republican, and has served two years in the city council, and six or seven years on the board of education, of Chetopa. Fraternally, he is a member of Chetopa Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Oswego Commandery; Wichita Consistory, No. 2; the I. O. O. F., of Chetopa; the Knights of Pythias, of Chetopa; and the B. P. O. E., of Parsons. Mrs. Bush is a member of the Eastern Star lodge. She belongs to the Presbyterian church.

---

**W**ILLIAM J. LOUGH, who has been one of the foremost business men of Altamont, Kansas, for many years, is a member of the firm of Lough Brothers, merchants of that city. He formerly conducted the Altamont Roller Mills, which were burned to the ground. Mr. Lough was born in Ottawa, Canada, in 1856, and is a son of John A. Lough, and a grandson of William J. Lough.

His grandfather was born in Ireland in 1805, and moved to Ottawa, Canada, in 1816, where he lived until his death in 1896. He married Elizabeth Taylor, a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, who was born in 1806, and died in 1899. His son, John A., was a machinist and millwright by trade, and was engaged in milling nearly his entire life. He was born in Ottawa, Canada, in 1835, and moved with his family to Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas, in 1869. He built the Anchor Mills of that place, in the winter of 1869 and 1870, and served as superintendent of the same from that time until his death, February 6, 1894. His widow, Susan (Craig), who was born in 1836, still





*B. F. Briggs*



resides in Chetopa. They were parents of eight children: William J.; Martha E. (Allen), of Baldwin, Kansas; Robert A., superintendent of the Anchor Mills, at Chetopa; Thomas H., who was born in 1862, and is in partnership with William J. Lough; Emma J. (Kinzer), of Baldwin, Kansas; Samuel A., professor of Greek and Latin in Baker University, at Baldwin, Kansas, and also treasurer of the board of trustees; Harriet (Milner), of Chetopa, Kansas; and Nellie E. (Allen), of Parsons, Kansas.

William J. Lough was reared to the milling business, and for eleven years was night superintendent of the Anchor Mills, at Chetopa. In 1885, he bought and remodeled the Altamont Roller Mills, and engaged in the business for himself, under the firm name of W. J. Lough & Company. He continued thus until his mill was destroyed by fire, on June 3, 1900, through which calamity he sustained a loss of \$12,000. His brother, Thomas H., was engaged in the mercantile business with his brother-in-law, Mr. Allen, in Altamont, and soon after the destruction of the mill, William J. Lough purchased Mr. Allen's interest in the firm. It is now conducted under the firm name of Lough Brothers, and in addition to their large regular business, they buy and sell grain extensively. Both are bright, shrewd men, and have made a success of the venture.

Thomas H. Lough was united in marriage with Rose Catlin, and they have a daughter, Ella. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M.: and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a Republican, in politics, and has been city treasurer, councilman and mayor.

William J. Lough, the subject hereof, was united in marriage with Alice M. Kinzer, and they are the parents of the following children: Louise M., John E., Hazel, William H., and

Margaret. Mr. Lough is a Mason and has risen to the rank of Knight Templar; he has been eminent commander of the commandery and has passed through all the chairs. He is also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a prominent Republican, in politics, was a member of the city council, and is now mayor. He has been a member of the Republican county central committee since 1899, and served as its chairman in 1900. He was a member of the state legislature in 1895 and 1896.

**B**ENJAMIN F. BRIGGS, a prominent citizen of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, whose portrait is presented on the opposite page, is engaged in the real-estate, loan and insurance business, and is meeting with unqualified success. He was born at Lockport, Will county, Illinois, December 29, 1854, and is a son of Benjamin Briggs, who traced his lineage back to the "Mayflower."

Benjamin Briggs was a native of Vermont and was a cousin of ex-Governor Briggs, of Massachusetts. He was a son of Benjamin Briggs, Sr., a native of Massachusetts, and was one of a family of five children, as follows: Charles, Alanson, Erastus, Cynthia and Benjamin. The father of our subject moved from Vermont to Chicago, Illinois, in 1837, and there followed his trade, that of wagon-maker, until 1848, building the first wagon made in that city. He moved from there to Orland, Cook county, Illinois, where he was located until 1852, when he bought a farm in Homer township, four miles east of Lockport. He accumulated a large estate, which was divided among his family and his widow after his demise. He died of small-

pox at his home in 1863. His first marriage occurred at Chicago, where his wife died in 1842, leaving two children,—William and Cynthia. William served in the 100th Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf., during the Civil war, and is now a farmer of Orland, Cook county, Illinois. He married Belle McGregor, and has three children: Alexander F., Ella and Ernest, one other, Benjamin, Jr., dying in infancy. Cynthia became the wife of John Panter, and both are now deceased; they had nine children, most of whom reside in California. Benjamin Briggs formed a second marital union in 1844, with Fidelia S. Fry, a native of Andover, Massachusetts, who is now living at Idenbro, Kansas, at the age of eighty-three years. Her father moved to New Hampshire and purchased the site of what is now the town of Concord. Five children blessed this union, namely: Frank, Mary (Griswold), Augustine, Benjamin F. and Eugene. Frank, a successful farmer of Kansas, married Lillie Lefever, and has three children, Frank, Mary and Lyda. Mary married Guy Griswold, who was born in Lockport, Illinois, and became a wealthy grain buyer of Henry, Illinois,—he died in 1895, and his widow resides in Englewood, Chicago, and has four children: Grace, proprietor of a ladies' furnishing store at Parsons, Kansas; Emerette, wife of Mr. Gousche, a grain dealer of Bellflower, Illinois, and by whom she has a son, Arthur; Ora, whose husband is manager of a large packing industry in Boston, Massachusetts; and Percy, a grain dealer of Idenbro, Kansas. Augustine came to Kansas with our subject, and is a wealthy land owner of Labette county, residing at Idenbro with his mother. Eugene died in infancy.

Benjamin F. Briggs received his primary

education in the public schools, and then took an academic course in Lockport, Illinois, to which town he removed with his mother at the age of fourteen years. He undertook to learn the art of photography at the age of sixteen years, but after reading some of Powell's "Explorations of the West," he decided to go West. He left home at the age of seventeen years in company with Rev. John Alden, in July, 1871, the latter having accepted a call to preach at Santa Rosa, California. They visited the cities and points of interest en route to San Francisco. From there Mr. Briggs went to Portland, Oregon, and entered the employ of the Oregon & California Railway Company, being in the train service for a short time. He was then clerk at the International Hotel until November 1, 1872, when he returned to his home at Lockport, Illinois, by the way of San Francisco, arriving home in December, 1872. In February, 1873, he went to Denver with his brother, Frank, and engaged in the grain and commission business until October of that year. They then closed out, Frank going to Solomon, Kansas, and our subject to Chicago, Illinois, where he attended the University of Chicago for three months. He began firing an engine on the C. R. I. & P. R. R. between Chicago and Davenport, Iowa, and fired the famous Silver Engine of America engine for Engineer Thomas Shehan. He was in the railroad employ for three years and was offered a position as engineer, but left at the time of a strike, removing to Kansas. He located in Labette county in 1876, purchasing a farm near Parsons, and successfully engaged in farming and stock raising until 1896. He then sold out and moved to the city of Parsons, where he has since been engaged in the

real-estate business. He formed a partnership with Mr. Carringer, who after a time departed from the city. He subsequently became a partner of W. T. Terril, but this partnership was dissolved in July, 1900, since which time Mr. Briggs has continued alone. He has a very large business in loans, real estate and insurance, and enjoys the confidence of the people to a marked degree. He has done all possible to further his business interests and has prepared himself for the legal profession, and expects to be admitted to the bar soon.

Mr. Briggs was united in marriage in Labette county, Kansas, February 20, 1879, with Alice Burkette, who was born in Indiana in July, 1859, and is a daughter of S. M. and Elizabeth Burkette. She came to this county with her parents in 1879, they locating on a farm south of Parsons. She was one of five girls, as follows: Alice Edith, wife of J. C. Bertsch, a retired farmer, by whom she has one daughter, Bertha; Nevada; Emma (Giltner), who resides near Parsons, and has five children,—Oscar, Frank, Marvin, Clement and Ora and Dora, wife of Richard Baldridge, who conducts a meat market at Parsons,—they have one daughter, Jessie. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs have five children, namely: Arthur, aged twenty years, attended Lawrence University one year, and is now teaching school; Clifford A., aged eighteen years, who assists in his father's office; Rena, aged seventeen years; Joseph E., fourteen years old; and Alice Gertrude, two years old. In politics, he is a Republican. He is a man of domestic inclinations, preferring home and family to evenings spent at lodge. Although his father was a Baptist deacon, he and his family are members of the Presbyterian church at Parsons.



CHARLES W. MAIER, probably one of the best known citizens of Parsons, Kansas, and third vice-grand master of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, has held that important position since December 23, 1894, having been successively re-elected to that office every two years.

He was born at Lincoln, Logan county, Illinois, in 1862, and is a son of Adam and Johanna (Crean) Maier, both residents of Kansas City, Missouri. Adam Maier was born in 1838, was reared in Germany, and came to America when a young man. He was a farmer during the active period of his life.

In November, 1866, the family removed to Kansas, and located in Allen county, where Charles W. Maier went to school as soon as he was old enough, but continued only a few years. His first work here was on a farm, and at the age of fourteen years he commenced the butcher's business, taking another man's place in a shop at Iola, Kansas. There he worked until 1875, when he quit his trade and farmed till 1882. He came to Parsons, Kansas, about April 1, 1882, and entered the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company. He worked in the car department, and helped in repairing, picking up wrecks, etc.

July 25, 1883, Mr. Maier entered the locomotive department of the company as a helper and wiper. September 6, 1883, he was promoted to be a fireman, first worked for Engineer Glenn Ewing, in the yards. He next worked for Engineer Jake Reilly, on the road, and later was fireman on a passenger engine, eighteen months, for Senator John Reilly, and eighteen months for Engineer George Lyons, deceased. He was promoted

to be an engineer, June 16, 1889. His first work as an engineer was to run an extra for a time; he then pulled regular freight on all the divisions out of Parsons, but mainly to Muskogee, Indian Territory. Subject ran an engine until December 23, 1894, and has an enviable record during the entire time of his railroad service. Very few engineers can boast of having filled all the posts from a humble beginning to the position of engineer, without sustaining injury or loss of time.

December 26, 1894, Mr. Maier began traveling in the interests of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen,—having joined that order, September 6, 1884. He has faithfully served the order, having passed through the chairs. He was master of Great Western Division, No. 24, of Parsons, and, for four years, prior to 1894, was grand trustee. During the four years he held that office there came into the treasury of the order nearly \$4,000,000. His careful and successful work for the good of the order made him available for advancement, and he was elevated to his present position as third vice-grand master, receiving his orders from Grand Master Sergeant of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen. John J. Hannahan, of Chicago, is first vice-grand master, Charles A. Wilson, of Phillipsburg, New Jersey, is second-vice grand master. These officials and Mr. Maier have 40,000 men to look after in the various lodges. They travel over the whole area of North America, and are mainly engaged in lecturing, and in organizing new lodges of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen. Mr. Maier travels fully 50,000 miles per year, but makes his home at Parsons, preferring it to any other location. He is away from home about five-sixths of the time, and returns to his family, for two or three days about the first of each

month. He has two brothers, John A. and George E., employed as engineers on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, and residing at Parsons.

Mr. Maier was married in Allen county, Kansas, to Ida A. Wise, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of John L. Wise, originally from Vermont; both parents are dead. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Maier: Frank, a clerk in Mr. Talbot's book store; Jessie (Baker), of Kansas City; Adam; George; Lawrence; Harry, aged seven years; and Ida Katherine, deceased. Mr. Maier owns a fine home at No. 1714 Clark avenue, which he built and also a farm in the edge of Neosho county. He is entirely a self-made man. He is a hard student and a great reader, covering a wide range of literature. Politics have not diverted much of his time from study and reading. He is, in the main, a Democrat, although not radically partisan. He manifests a great interest in fraternal orders, and may be found in the councils of the B. of L. F., Select Knights, A. O. U. W., B. P. O. E., and K. of P., all of Parsons. He favors the Catholic church in his religious convictions.



WILLIAM M. HOLT, one of the prominent and sturdy farmers of Labette township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in 1824, and is a son of Jacob and Amy (Ward) Holt, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania. The great-grandfather of William M. came from Germany to the United States, and followed farming. As both grandfather and father were also farmers, it is but natural that the subject hereof should follow in the footsteps of his ancestors. In





MR. AND MRS. W. ORA DUDGEON AND FAMILY.



early boyhood he evinced a love for farm work, and coupled with it the convenient auxiliary trades, those of carpenter and cabinetmaker, which he followed until he located in Kansas, in 1870.

Mr. Holt entered his present farm land at Independence, Kansas, and has resided on the same ever since. He has one of the best improved farms in Labette county. His residence, a two-story, ten-room, frame structure, together with the splendid barn and other buildings on his farm are monuments of his own handiwork. He has built well, and in his declining years is reaping the harvest of the seed planted and sown by a careful hand and a studied purpose.

William M. Holt was the fifth in a family of eight children. They were,—George, Jacob, Elizabeth, Louisa, William M., Solomon, Fredrick and Samuel.

Mr. Holt chose for his life companion, Nancy Fetrow, who was born in Pennsylvania, in 1835. They reared the following children: Jacob, who lives at home and follows the blacksmith trade; Elizabeth; Anna; John; William; Samuel; and Lizzie. Our subject is a Republican, in politics, and in religion, a member of the German Lutheran church.



ORA DUDGEON, a successful coal operator and farmer, located on the northwest quarter of section 27, Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Fulton county, Indiana, and was born in 1865. He is a son of William Dudgeon.

William Dudgeon was born in 1827, in Pennsylvania, and at an early period settled in Ohio, where he remained several years.

He then went to Fulton county, Indiana, where he lived ten years, after which he moved to Marshall county, Indiana. In 1883, he located in Oswego township, Labette county, Kansas, where he carried on farming until his death, in 1896. He married Miss McElravey, who is a native of Pennsylvania, and now lives in Oswego, Kansas. They reared the following offspring: Joseph; Mary (Zink), deceased; Daniel; W. Ora, the subject of this sketch; Hugh; and Marion.

W. Ora Dudgeon was reared and schooled in Marshall county, Indiana, and Labette county, Kansas. He began his business career as a farmer, and in 1896 leased the property on which he now lives. Coal veins, averaging 14 inches thick, are found in various places on this land. Mr. Dudgeon operates a coal bank, and mines the coal by plow and scraper. The coal is found at a depth of from 10 to 12 feet. He has been very successful in this line, and in 1898 bought the property. He also carries on general farming.

Mr. Dudgeon married Elizabeth Kastor, in 1896, and they have two children, William and Charles. The subject of this sketch is a member of the Populist party. He is also a member of Red Bud Camp, No. 91, Woodmen of the World, of which he is banker. A picture of Mr. and Mrs. Dudgeon and their family accompanies this sketch.



VAN O. ELLIS, an attorney-at-law and general practitioner in Parsons, Kansas, is a native of Greene county, Indiana, where he was born in 1855. He is the eldest son of Ira and Mary F. (Ferguson) Ellis, respected and worthy residents of Neosho county, Kansas. Ira Ellis was born

in North Carolina, in 1827, and his wife is a native of Indiana, where her birth took place in 1833. This aged and honored couple reared a family of seven children,—the youngest, who is now twenty-six years old, having charge of the homestead farm. They are as follows: Evan O.; J. F., a tinner in Blue Mound, Illinois; Sarah, for several years a superintendent of schools in Kansas, and now attending college at Franklin, Indiana; Etta, wife of L. S. Hewitt, of Neosho county; Fanny (Radcliff) and Errett.

Mr. Ellis attended the public schools of Christian county, Illinois. In 1882 his parents settled on a farm in Neosho county, Kansas, close to the Labette county line, upon which they still reside. The first manual labor of Evan O. Ellis was performed on his father's farm. When thirty years of age, he chose for himself a professional career. Entering the law office of J. L. Dennison, in Erie, Kansas, he commenced the study of law, and one year later, in 1889, was admitted to the bar of Neosho county. Immediately afterward, other matters claimed his attention, and he deferred practicing his chosen profession for several years. In April, 1889, he was appointed deputy sheriff of Neosho county, under Sheriff S. L. VanSandt, and filled that position very creditably for three years under that gentleman, and for one year, under his successor, C. W. Bennett. Since then Mr. Ellis' interests have been principally in Labette county. In the spring of 1894, he engaged in building bridges on the railroad and the following year (1895), he opened a law office in Parsons, at No. 1900 Johnson avenue, where he has since been engaged in practice.

Mr. Ellis' marriage with Anna Springer, of Illinois, resulted in the birth of three children,—Bessie, Paul and Harry, aged, respec-

tively, thirteen, nine and seven years. Around their fireside at No. 611 Lincoln avenue happiness reigns supreme.

Mr. Ellis has met with unqualified success in the practice of his profession, and has always been ready and willing to further, in any possible manner, the progress of the flourishing city in which he has become so prominent. He votes a straight Republican ticket, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Knights and Ladies of Security; his wife is also a Royal Neighbor. They are devout members of the Christian church, of which Rev. C. E. Pile is pastor. They enjoy the esteem, confidence and affection of a wide circle of friends.



STEPHEN CONNOLLY. This gentleman is one of the thrifty and prosperous farmers of Labette county, Kansas. He has a fine farm in section 1, Labette township. Mr. Connolly was born in Ireland, in 1846, and is a son of James and Mary (Manning) Connolly.

James Connolly was born in Ireland, where he carried on farming all his life. His wife was also a native of Ireland, and they reared the following children: Mary; Peter; James; Patrick; William; John and Martin, deceased; and Stephen.

Stephen Connolly, at the age of fifteen years, sailed for America, and landed in New York. He went to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he made his home until 1871. During this time he worked at different tasks, but learned no "trade." In 1871, he removed to Labette county, Kansas, and located on the northwest quarter of section 1, in Labette township, which has been his home since that

time. He has made many improvements on the place, and it is now one of the best and most substantial farms in the county. In 1873, Mr. Connolly erected a large, two-story, frame house, of eight rooms, which adds greatly to the general appearance of the property. He also owns a farm of 160 acres in section 36, Walton township. He has a thorough knowledge of agriculture, and is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Connolly married Margaret Keif, who was born in Ireland in 1843. They have reared four children, namely: Mary, who married Henry Gars, a farmer of Labette county; Margaret; Anna; and James W.

Mr. Connolly is a member of the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in the affairs of the county. He belongs to the A. O. U. W., Lodge No. 1, of Parsons. Mr. Connolly is a man of firm principles and purpose, and is one of the most loyal and upright citizens in the county. He has many warm friends, and is well known.



**SOLOMON TAYLOR**, a resident of Labette township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Virginia, in 1845, and lived there until after the Civil war. Previous to this time he followed the carpenter's trade, for a short time. In 1865, he moved to LaSalle county, Illinois, where he followed farming for twelve years.

In 1877, Mr. Taylor left LaSalle county, going direct to Labette county, Kansas, and located on his present farm, where he has resided since that time. Mr. Taylor has improved his property with such care and diligence, that he has one of the best farms in the township.

Daniel Taylor, the father of Solomon, was born in Highland county, Virginia, in 1809. He was a stock raiser, and also followed the carpenter's trade. He married Polly Nicely, who was also born in Virginia. They were blessed with 11 children, viz: Eli; Elizabeth; Jacob; Frances; William; Nancy; George; Solomon; Joseph; Mary E. and John. Eli; Frances; Jacob; Elizabeth; Nancy and John are deceased; William resides in West Virginia, George is a farmer in Labette county, Kansas. Mary E. (Sidmore) is a resident of Iowa.

Solomon Taylor was united in matrimony with Emma Ables, who was born in Michigan in 1850. They have eight children living: Angeline; Mary E.; Eli, a Populist, who is at home, and is now serving his second term as clerk of Labette township; Alice; Fred; William; Daniel; and Clarence. Three,—Charles, Theodore and Richard, are deceased.

In his political views, Mr. Taylor inclines to the support of the Populist doctrines. He has been treasurer of his township two terms, and has served as a member of the school board for the past eighteen years. He is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. The family belong to the M. E. church.



**S. ADAMSON**, an enterprising and progressive farmer of Labette township, Labette county, Kansas, is a pioneer settler in the township and ranks among the foremost citizens of the county. Mr. Adamson was born in St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1843. He is a son of Enos and Sarah (Burgin) Adamson.

Enos Adamson was born in 1821. He came from good old Tennessee stock, and followed

farming and stock raising. His wife was born in Virginia, in 1820. They reared a family of eight children, as follows: J. S.; Dennis, of Nebraska, deceased; Thomas, also of Nebraska; Nancy J.; Ella, of Iowa; Enos, Jr., of Parsons, Kansas; Letty, of Iowa; and Lee, of Nebraska.

J. S. Adamson followed farming during his early manhood, and also learned the carpenter's trade. He left Jasper county, Iowa, where the family then lived, in 1869, and located upon the farm which is still his home. This farm is the southwest quarter of section 12, Labette township, where Mr. Adamson carries on general farming. His marriage with Elizabeth Knous, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1868, resulted in the following six children: Cora; Charles; Edward; Atla; Daniel; and Archie. The eldest child is deceased. Charles resides in the state of Colorado, while Daniel is serving at the present time in the United States Army, being a member of the 40th Regiment.

In politics, Mr. Adamson is a Republican. He has served his party as justice of the peace of Labette township, and has also served on the school board. He is a member of Anti-Horsethief Association. He is a sturdy, hard-working man, and is well liked by all who know him.

**L**ESTER OLDS, a resident of Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, has for a number of years been one of the most influential farmers in the county. He was born in Delaware county, Ohio, in 1839, and is a son of Benjamin and Abigail (Washburn) Olds.

Benjamin Olds was born in Pennsylvania. For many years he was a minister of the Gos-

pel, but later became a farmer. He made the first pair of pegged shoes ever made in Ohio, as he was also a shoemaker by trade. He married Abigail Washburn, who was a native of New York. They reared the following children, namely: James, Henry, Luther, Abner, Sanford, Jane and Miles, all of whom are deceased; Lester, the subject of this sketch; Charles, deceased; Mary; and Walter, who is a lawyer, living in Chicago, Illinois.

Lester Olds, the subject of this sketch, was reared and educated in his native state, where he remained until he reached the age of twenty-one years. In 1861 he went to Illinois, but returned to Ohio, and in 1862 enlisted in Company D, 121st Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and was assigned to the Army of the West. He took part in the battle of Perryville, and in several skirmishes. Mr. Olds was honorably discharged in 1863, after which he returned to his home in Ohio. His next move was to Mahaska county, Iowa, where he engaged in the stock business, and remained there until 1866. He sold out his business in Iowa, and returned to Ohio, where he lived until 1872. His final move was to Labette county, Kansas, where he settled in Neosho township, in the south half of the southwest quarter of section 31. He has resided there ever since, and has carried on general farming. He is a man of honest, upright principles, and has won the confidence and respect of all in the community. He is always willing to assist in any public enterprise that is for the good of the community, and his advice is often sought in such matters. His farm is one of the best in the county, and he has bright prospects for the future.

Mr. Olds was united in marriage with Elizabeth H. Porter, who was born in Delaware county, Ohio, in 1846. The subject of





JOSEPH P. WILLS.



this sketch is a Republican in politics, and has served as trustee of Neosho township one term. He was also a member of the school board for a number of years. Mrs. Olds belongs to the Methodist church.

**J**OSEPH P. WILLS, deceased, whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, settled in Labette county, Kansas, in 1879, and followed farming in a successful manner until his death in 1895. He was located in the northeast quarter of section 29, Oswego township. Mr. Willis was born in New York City, in 1829, and was a son of John and Nancy (Partridge) Wills.

John Wills was born in London, England, in 1803 and was a shoemaker by trade. He lived in New York City for a period of nineteen years, and in 1848 located in Chicago, where he followed his trade until 1870. He then moved to Tennessee, near the city of Knoxville, where he died in 1872. His wife, Nancy Partridge, was born in 1805, and died in New York City, in 1845. They were parents of four children: Samuél, deceased; Lottie, deceased; Mary, deceased; and Joseph P., the subject of this sketch.

Joseph P. Wills lived in New York City until 1848, when he removed with his parents to Chicago, Illinois. He was a sailmaker by trade, and when he arrived in Chicago went into the sail, awning and tent business, for himself, and continued thus until 1872, when his health failed and he sold out his business. He moved on a farm near Knoxville, Tennessee, and lived there until 1876, when he went to Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1877, he was married and then moved to Sherman, Texas. There he lived

until 1879, when he settled in Labette county, Kansas. He purchased property in the northeast quarter of section 29, Oswego township, where he was engaged in farming and stock raising until his death occurred. He was a man of high character, and enjoyed the utmost esteem of his fellow citizens. He was a Republican, in politics, and was treasurer of Oswego township for two terms.

Mr. Wills was united in marriage with Eliza M. Jones, a daughter of Ross and Martha (Whitehead) Jones. Mr. Jones was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, March 21, 1823. In 1828 he moved to Warren county, Ohio, with his parents, and lived there on a farm until 1840. He then went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he ran the first engine on the Little Miami Railroad. His run at that time was between Cincinnati and Springfield, Ohio. He worked on this road until 1844, when he was married to Martha Whitehead. He lived in Cincinnati until 1850, when he moved to Franklin county, Indiana. There he cultivated a farm until 1873, when he returned to Cincinnati, and died there in 1878. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Eliza M.; Ada (Elliott); John, deceased; Nettie (Thomas); Lucinda (Cadogan); and Oscar.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Wills became parents of four children, as follows: Florence (Dudley), who has one daughter, Pearl; Lottie (Hayden), who has two sons,—Ralph W. and Archie R.; Clarence; and Nettie.

By a former marriage, Mrs. Wills had a son, T. L. Sturgeon, whose father, Thomas R. Sturgeon, of Louisville, Kentucky, died in 1867. Thomas R. Sturgeon was a soldier in the Union army, and received injuries in the war, from which he never recovered.

**L**EWIS WILLIAMS, who owns the largest and finest nursery in Southern Kansas, is a highly respected citizen of North township, Labette county. He has been in the nursery line in this county a number of years, and, does a large and flourishing business. His partner is E. P. Bernardin. Mr. Williams is a native of St. Thomas, Canada, and was born in 1840. He is a son of George and Anna (Nichols) Williams, who were natives of Canada.

Lewis Williams lived in Canada until 1860. At the age of twenty years, he attended a college near Cleveland, Ohio, where he remained two years. In 1862 he returned to Canada, where he taught school for two years, and then went to Michigan, and settled near St. Joseph. There he sold trees until 1870, when he decided to try his fortune in the West. Accordingly Mr. Williams settled in Kansas, in the town of Chetopa. He engaged in the nursery business in that place, and in 1880 moved his stock to North township, a quarter of a mile south of Parsons. There, he has since resided. As before stated, he has the largest and finest nursery in Southern Kansas. His farm is located in the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 30. The home place takes up 120 acres, and Mr. Williams rents 180 acres. E. P. Bernardin is his partner in business, and they have been unusually successful. The packing house is of stone, 100 by 50 feet, in dimensions, and the implement house is 20 feet by 50 feet in size. They also have two large cellars. They increase their stock each year, and if the present growth continues, the nursery will be, in a few years, the largest in the state. Mr. Williams has devoted his whole attention to this business, and it has only been through careful manage-

ment and close application to his duties, that he has reached the goal of success. His home is one of the finest in the county.

Mr. Williams is independent in politics. He belongs to the A. F. & A. M., Lodge No. 73, of Chetopa. He also is a member of the Knights and Ladies of Security. Parsons Lodge, No. 162. Mr. Williams is unmarried. He is a man of genial and attractive personality, and his friends are legion.

**M**RS. MARY YOUNG, widow of the late Robert Young, is one of the well known and highly esteemed residents of North township, Labette county, Kansas. She resides in the west half of the northwest quarter of section 31, where she carries on general farming, assisted by her sons, Robert and Michael.

Robert Young, her deceased husband, was for many years one of Labette county's most prominent and influential farmers. He was a man of intelligence and strong character, and his death was greatly lamented by all who knew him. He was a native of Ireland, and followed farming all his active life.

Mrs. Mary Young, the subject of this sketch, was born in Ireland, in 1831, and came to America in 1856. She first located in Indiana, where she lived until 1888. She then moved with her husband to Labette county, and settled at her present home, in section 31. She has lived on this farm ever since, and, being a woman of sound judgment and executive ability, has carried on farming successfully, as did her husband before his death. She has a wide circle of friends in the community in which she resides, by whom she is held in warm regard for her many charitable acts. Mrs.

Young was married to Robert Young in 1880. They reared the following offspring: Thomas, deceased; William; Henry; Mary; Robert and Bridget, deceased; Anna; Mary (2); and Robert and Michael, twins who assist their mother on the homestead. Mr. Young died in 1889. Mrs. Young and her family are devout members of the Roman Catholic church.

**E**VI ADAMS is extensively engaged in general farming in Labette township, Labette county, Kansas, and is one of the most reliable citizens of that prosperous community. He comes from Pennsylvania ancestors, both his parents having been natives of that state. He is a son of Rullif and Elizabeth (James) Adams. His father was a farmer, by occupation, and was born in 1785; his mother was born about 1795. They reared a family of seven children, only two of whom are now living. The only one living besides Evi, who is the youngest member of the family, is Ziba, who is seventy-seven years old, and is a resident of Ohio. William was past eighty-three years of age, at the time of his death, in Ohio, May 15, 1901. The others deceased are Lucinda, Clarinda, Fisher, and Elizabeth.

Evi Adams was born in 1834, in Delaware county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood and lived until 1878. At that time he came west and has since made his home in Labette county, Kansas. The same year he purchased the farm which has been his home for nearly a quarter of a century, and where he still resides. He has made farming his life work. He has been twice married. His first wife bore him two children,—Abner and Alma. Abner mar-

ried Belle Braden, of Kansas, who has six children living: Quincy, James W., Anna D., Alice, Alma, and George R. Alma married Hill, of Labette county, Kansas, and has six children: Sylvester, Wellington, Etta, Ada D., Grace, and Leaffa. Sometime after the demise of his first wife, Mr. Adams married Mary Ann Cross, a daughter of Benjamin and Ruth (Bowen) Cross. Mrs. Adams' father was a native of Virginia, and was a prominent farmer of that state; her mother was an Ohioan by birth; she bore her husband four children.

The eldest of these is the wife of Mr. Adams and was born in Franklin county, Ohio, in 1841. One sister, Elmira, is deceased. Two brothers are still living, Basil and George, both of whom follow agricultural pursuits in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Adams have reared one son, William E., who resides upon the home farm, and superintends all manual labor, thus removing the burden from his father, who is spending his closing years in ease and comfort. The family attend divine services at the Methodist Episcopal church, of which all are members.

Mr. Adams' strict attention to business has secured for him a fair share of this world's goods, while his uprightness in all dealings has won him the respect of every one who knows him. In politics, he acts with the Republican party.



**M. HARRY**, agent for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, at Mound Valley, Kansas, was born in Fremont, Illinois, May 13, 1863. He is a son of John A. and Susan (Whitaker) Harry.

John A. Harry was born at Hagerstown, Maryland, and is a farmer by occupation. He

is at present living near McCune, Kansas. He married Susan Whitaker, who was born in Kentucky, in 1828, and they reared the following offspring: Horace, deceased; Laura, who married M. H. Woodard, a farmer near Parsons, Kansas; W. D., who is a farmer near McCune; O. C., who is employed by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, and lives in Corrigan, Texas; A. M., the subject of this sketch; F. O., who is a farmer near McCune; W. M., ticket agent at Joplin, Missouri, for the Missouri Pacific Railway Company.

A. M. Harry, whose name heads this sketch, lived in Illinois until 1883, when he located in Labette county. He settled near McCune, where he carried on farming for four years. After leaving the farm in 1877, he spent six months in Parsons, Kansas, and then worked as agent at Stark, Moran, and Kincaid, for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company. He took charge of the station at Mound Valley in 1888, and has been there since that time. He bought his present home in 1890, and in addition to this place owns another house in Mound Valley, which he rents. He also owns a farm in Mound Valley township,—the northwest quarter of section 18, township 33, range 18, which he also rents.

Mr. Harry married Fannie A. McEwen, who was born May 30, 1873, in White county, Illinois. She was a daughter of J. C. and Olive A. (Wright) McEwen, and died in April, 1899. J. C. McEwen was born in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, in 1823, and was a farmer by occupation. His wife was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, in 1835. They reared: Dr. W. W.; Maggie, deceased; John H., who is a farmer living in Illinois; and Charles E. and Fannie A., deceased. Mr. Harry and his wife had one child,—Zelda G.

In politics, Mr. Harry is a Democrat. He belongs to the M. W. of A., Lodge No. 967, of Mound Valley. He always lends his support to any measure which is for the good of the township in which he resides.



RS. MARY J. HARMON, widow of L. H. Harmon, is located in the southeast quarter of section 28, township 34, range 21, in Richland township, Labette county, Kansas, and since the death of her husband has had the entire management of the farm. She has a thorough knowledge of business affairs, has met with marked success, and has greatly enhanced the value of her property by many judicious improvements.

L. H. Harmon, deceased, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1836, and was a son of Eli and Anna Harmon. He was one of nine children, among them being Wesley, deceased, whose family now resides in Seattle, Washington; Melissa (Dunseth), of Portland, Oregon; and Diana (Williamson), whose husband is a druggist at Horton, Kansas. The remaining members of the family are deceased. When a boy, Mr. Harmon moved with his parents to Grant county, Indiana, where he attended the common schools, and remained at home until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He then traveled quite extensively, and returned home in 1861, to enter the army. He enlisted for three months in Company H, 8th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., afterward known as the "Bloody Eighth." He became second lieutenant, and then, first lieutenant, having reenlisted for three years' service. He was at the fall of Vicksburg, and in the Shenandoah Valley, and participated in 11 important engagements.

He received a flesh wound at Shenandoah, Virginia, and was in the hospital at New Orleans for one year as a result of ill health caused by his experiences in the South. On March 10, 1870, he moved with his family to Labette county, Kansas, and located in the southeast quarter of section 28, township 34, range 21, in Richland township, which had been filed upon by Charles Hitchborn. In June, 1870, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway was put through, dividing the farm and leaving 102 acres on the west side, which Mrs. Harmon owns, the remainder being owned by J. M. Morgan. Mr. Harmon died in 1878, and his widow has since managed the affairs of the farm. During the last ten years she has made many great improvements, including the construction of an immense barn to take the place of the first one which had been blown down by a severe storm. She has also remodeled the residence and the outbuildings. The latter are finely situated on a convenient rise of ground, and face the main road running east and west. The drives from the road are bordered by large and handsome trees, and the location is all that could be desired for a home.

In 1863 Mr. Harmon was united in marriage with Mary J. Seegar, who was born in Indiana, in 1843, and is a daughter of Jonathan and Mary (Hendricks) Seegar. She is of Scotch-Irish descent. Jonathan Seegar followed farming throughout his life, while four of his brothers were physicians; he was called to his final rest in 1872. Mrs. Harmon is one of eight children. The only other living member of the family is Jasper N. Seeger, who owns and resides on the old homestead in Indiana. Mrs. Harmon is a cousin of the wife of the late Bishop Wiley, the well known Methodist minister. Mary J. Seegar was sent to Columbus, Ohio, in early

childhood, because of the death of her mother, and was there reared by an aunt, up to the time of her marriage. Mrs. Harmon and her husband were the parents of four children, as follows: Anna M.; J. S.; Otto E.; and Grace. Anna M. (Bishop) lives in Oklahoma, where her husband is in the general merchandise business; they have four children.—Florence, Merle, Robert and Grace. J. S. married Jennie Harper, has one son, Elwin, and lives in Labette county. Otto E. is at home and is preparing to take up the study of medicine,—having already completed a course in pharmacy. Grace (Clark) is the widow of a druggist of Joplin, Missouri, who died recently, leaving one daughter. In politics Mr. Harmon was a Republican, and held numerous township offices. He was a Mason, and his widow is a member of the Eastern Star lodge at Chetopa. Religiously, she is a Methodist, and helped to build the church at Chetopa.

---

**R**OBERT A. HILL, who comes of one of Labette county's best known families, is a leading agriculturist of Richland township, where he cultivates a half section of land. He was born in Ross county, Ohio, March 4, 1861, and is a son of J. F. and Mary (Kearney) Hill.


J. F. Hill went to Ohio as a young man, and there married his first wife and reared their children. After locating in Labette county, in 1870, he taught school several years, and was also a member of the county board of examiners. He later moved to Oswego and did a large business as pension attorney. He first married Mary Kearney, who died in Ohio when Robert A. Hill was about four years of age, leaving three sons older than him, namely:

Dr. J. B., of Oswego; J. R., who studied law under Judge Case, and died while county attorney; and W. S., of Great Bend, Kansas, who is a teacher and photographer and handles different specialties. J. F. Hill was married a second time, in Illinois. He wedded Nan Clara MacRoberts, who died leaving a daughter, Mrs. Lizzie Barry, of Phoenix, Arizona. In the summer of 1900, he married a third time, and is now making his home at Phoenix, Arizona. He was a prominent citizen and business man, while a resident of Labette county, where he located in the fall of 1870, with his four sons. He purchased land in Richland township, in sections 9 and 10, township 34, range 21, and owned land amounting to as much as one section, which is under the management of Robert A. Hill.

Robert A. Hill was reared in Kansas, and attended Fort Scott Normal School several months, but has spent his life thus far mainly on the farm in Richland township. He has remodeled the home residence, and it presents a very neat appearance. He purchased 160 acres of land, including the old homestead, and also owns some bottom land farther east. He leases the balance of the estate of his father and oversees the work upon it. His father set out several miles of hedge, and also a fine grove in front of and around the home dwelling. Mr. Hill also has 50 or 60 bearing pecans,—all of which make it a pretty, picturesque and finely improved home farm. He is an excellent manager and is meeting with deserved success.

Mr. Hill was united in marriage with Lizzie J. Bentley, who came from Michigan, and is a native of New York State, and they have two children, Forest Fletcher and Gertrude Hazel. The marriage ceremony was performed by Judge Case, who has long been an intimate friend of the family. In politics, Mr. Hill is

a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and has held various township offices such as those of trustee, treasurer and clerk. Fraternally, he is a member of the lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, at Che-topa. In religious views, he is a Methodist, and helped to build the church which now stands on the Hill farm.

EORGE A. OLMSTEAD has been one of the prominent farmers of Richland township, Labette county, Kansas, since 1871. He is at present living in Richland township, in section 2, township 34, range 21. He is a son of Job and Clarissa Olmsted, and was born in McHenry county, Illinois, in 1850.


Job Olmsted was born in Ohio, and in 1871 removed to Labette county where he died in 1873, aged sixty-six years. Mr. Olmsted and his wife were the parents of four children besides the subject hereof, namely: Levi, who lives in Michigan, but will soon move to California; Albert, who died in California, September 15, 1900, at the age of sixty-four years; James, who is in Indiana, engaged in getting out material for cooperage, and who at one time purchased 2,200 acres of timber land in Arkansas; and Jane (Finch), who lives in San Diego, California, and is the only sister of George A.

George A. Olmsted was reared in Illinois until he reached the age of eighteen years, when he went to Michigan. He worked in that state until his removal to Labette county, which was in 1871. When he arrived in Oswego, he had but six dollars in money. He worked on the farm located in section 2, which was taken up by Albert Olmsted, who had



been in Bourbon county, Kansas, during the war, and moved to Kansas in 1866. He built the house which now stands on the farm, but the subject hereof erected a fine barn. As the buildings are located on a small hill the view is very pretty, and, altogether, the farm is one of the most attractive in the county. Mr. Olmsted moved to Newton county, Missouri, in 1880, where he remained ten years,—having rented land. He then returned to Labette county, which has been his home ever since. He now owns 280 acres of land, including 40 acres of timber. He has a splendid orchard, containing three or four hundred trees bearing fruit.

Mr. Olmsted was wedded to Fannie Green, who is a daughter of John Green, a pioneer of Labette county. They reared six children, namely: Fred, deceased; Albert; Rosa; Lena; Annie; and Roscoe. In politics, Mr. Olmsted was reared a Republican but is now an independent voter. He has never cared to accept public office of any kind. His wife is a member of the Methodist church.

EORGE H. SPANGLE, a prosperous and progressive business man of Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas, is a member of the jewelry firm of J. B. & G. H. Spangle, which was established in 1882. He is also part owner and manager of the Chetopa Telephone Company, and electrician of the Chetopa electric light plant. He is a man of recognized ability, and has many stanch friends throughout the county. He was born in Jasper county, Indiana, in 1859, and is a son of J. B. and Emily A. (Packer) Spangle.


J. B. Spangle and his wife are natives of

Ohio where they were married. When George H. was a small boy, they moved to Missouri, and in 1879 came to Parsons, Labette county, Kansas. They had one daughter, who died in 1892. The father is a member of the firm of J. B. & G. H. Spangle.

George H. Spangle, after coming to Parsons, engaged in the jewelry business for himself, and upon removing to Chetopa he and his father established their present business in 1882, buying out the interests of R. G. Bishop. In 1883, they built a building 24 by 50 feet, in dimensions, and have since put in a fire-proof vault; they have also a burglar-proof safe. George H. Spangle and R. B. White are partners constituting the Chetopa Telephone Company, the former being manager. They put in an exchange in 1896, the first switch-board having 25 numbers; at the present time there are 103 numbers. Mr. Spangle puts up the instruments, rewinds the drop, superintends the working of the line, and does general repair work. The central office is in block 34, Chetopa, and they give night and day service. There are toll lines connecting Oswego, Labette, Parsons, Montana, Altamont, Mound Valley, Independence, Cherryvale, Coffeyville, Erie, Caney, Tyro, Chanute, and Galesburg. They own the toll line from Chetopa to Coffeyville, connecting Bartlett, Edna and Valeda. They also own a half interest in the line from Chetopa to Columbus. Mr. Spangle is also electrician for the electric light plant put in at Chetopa in 1887, and now owned by R. B. White, and has shown unusual ability in that capacity. In his store, he carries a most complete line of jewelry of all kinds, and diamonds and watches, and makes a specialty of high class repair work. At the rear of the store he has a shop for his electrical work, and has arranged

many conveniences, such as burglar and fire alarm connecting the store with his home, and a device for demagnetizing watches. He is a practical optician, having graduated from the Detroit Optical Institute, in the department of ophthalmic refraction, in 1895. He purchased a Geneva retinoscope at a cost of \$85, by the means of which instrument a perfect test can be had for fitting glasses to the eyes.

Mr. Spangle was united in marriage with Clara Evans, a native of Ohio, who owns some real estate in Chetopa. In politics, he is a strong supporter of the Democratic party. He is liberal in religious views.

EORGE W. SALTZMAN, a highly respected farmer living in section 2, Labette township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Defiance county, Ohio, in 1853. He is a son of Louis and Nancy (Harpson) Saltzman.


Louis Saltzman was born in Wayne county, Ohio, in 1825, and is still living. He married Mary Harpson, who was born in Wayne county, Ohio, and they reared the following children, namely: Mary, George W., Ellen, Sallie, and Louis W. Mr. Saltzman has been a farmer all his life.

George W. Saltzman received his mental training in the common schools of his native county, where he lived until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He had assisted his father in farming and, after he became of age, he went to Illinois, where he followed that occupation until his removal to Kansas. In 1883, Mr. Saltzman settled on his present farm in section 2, Labette township, Labette county, and there he has been a tiller of the soil for many years. He is a hard worker, is

thrifty and energetic, and now has one of the finest farms in the county. A man of honesty and integrity, he is greatly esteemed by all.

Mr. Saltzman married Ellen Atchley, who was born near Trenton, New Jersey, in 1858. She is a daughter of George Atchley, who was born in New Jersey, in 1833. Mr. Atchley married May Applegate, a native of New Jersey, who was also born in 1833, and they were the parents of six children: John, a butcher at Parsons, Kansas; Sarah; William, Jennie, and Edward, deceased; and Ellen. Mr. Saltzman and his wife have four children, namely: Jennie, Clara, Mary, and Frank.

Mr. Saltzman is a member of the Populist party. He is now serving his fourth term as treasurer of Labette township. He is treasurer of the school board and has served thereon a number of years. Mr. Saltzman belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association, and is treasurer of his post. He and his wife are members of the Knights and Ladies of Security.

AMUEL W. GUTHRIE, a veteran of the Civil War, and a prominent farmer residing in section 33, Fairview township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1845, and is a son of John and Rosanna (Stoody) Guthrie. John Guthrie was a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, and was born in 1818. He died in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1885, his wife's death having occurred in 1845. She was born in Washington, Pennsylvania. They reared but one child,—Samuel W.,—the subject of this sketch.

Samuel W. Guthrie was eight years old when his parents moved to Ashland county, Ohio. In 1858, they moved to Vermilion coun-





MR. AND MRS. JACOB S. STARE.

ty, Illinois. Mr. Guthrie obtained his schooling both in Illinois and Ohio. In 1864, he enlisted in Company F, 51st Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Cumberland. He was wounded at Franklin, Tennessee, and was in the hospital for four months. He was then transferred to the 4th Reg., Veteran Reserve Corps, and was sent to Rock Island, Illinois, to do guard duty. He remained there until September, 1865, when he was mustered out. He then returned to Vermilion county, Illinois. There he remained but a short time, when he went to Carthage, Missouri. In Carthage Mr. Guthrie was engaged in the milling business until 1874, when he returned to Vermilion county, Illinois, and was married. In 1875, Mr. Guthrie moved to Douglas county, Illinois, and lived on his farm there until 1891. In that year he settled in Labette county, in section 33, Fairview township, where he has since lived. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has been very successful. He is a man of thrift and energy, and his farm is generally improved, and presents a fine appearance.

In 1875, Mr. Guthrie married Alice M. Gray, who was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1861. She is a daughter of William and Sarah (Harman) Gray. William Gray is a native of Hamilton county, Ohio, and was born in 1816. In 1845, he moved to Clinton county, Indiana, where he worked at his trade, that of a cooper, and at farming. In 1859, he settled in Vermilion county, Illinois. At the present writing he is living in Sidell, Illinois, where he is engaged in farming. His wife, Sarah (Harman) Gray, was a native of Hamilton county, Ohio, and was born in 1822. She died in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1894. Mr. Guthrie and his wife have reared the following offspring: Harvey, deceased; Mary

(Mills), of Vermilion county; Alfred W. and Lizzie (Wilson), both of Vermilion county; Sarah, deceased; and Clara, of Vermilion county.

Mr. Guthrie has been a member of the school board for a number of years and is an active member of the church known as the Society of Friends.



ACOB S. STARE, formerly a carpenter and cabinetmaker, by trade, but in late years actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, is a highly respected citizen of North township, Labette county, Kansas. He was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in 1825, and is a son of Jacob M. and Eva (Auchenbach) Stare.

Jacob Stare was born in York county, Pennsylvania, and his wife was born in Lancaster county in the same state. They reared the following children, namely: George; Jacob S.; Elizabeth, deceased; Benjamin; Sarah; Daniel; John; and Peter.

Jacob S. Stare, after finishing his school studies, learned the trade of a carpenter and cabinetmaker, which he followed for twenty-seven years. In 1853, he went to Macon county, Illinois, where he resided for seventeen years, and in 1871 he located in Labette county, Kansas. He was engaged in the fruit and confectionery business in Parsons for eleven years, and then sold his store, in 1885. He purchased the farm on which he now lives, from the government, in 1873, at \$1.25 per acre. It is the east half of the southeast quarter of section 17, North township. There he has carried on general farming and fruit raising. He has made extensive improvements on his farm, and now has one of the finest homes in the county.

His orchard is generally conceded to be the finest in the state. He is well known throughout the county as a farmer of great ability and intelligence.

Mr. Stare married Catherine Bintz, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. This estimable lady, who was universally beloved, and was esteemed as a woman of high character, died in February, 1901. Her death was sincerely mourned by all who knew her. Mr. and Mrs. Stare were blessed with two children, namely: Charles, deceased; and Edward, manager of the Stare dairy.

Mr. Stare is a Republican, in politics. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church. He has many warm friends in the community. A picture of Mr. and Mrs. Stare accompanies this sketch.

**J**OSEPH ALLEN, an old and highly respected citizen of Altamont, Labette county, Kansas, was engaged in farming in this county for many years, but is now living in retirement, in the enjoyment of a well earned rest after years of hard and diligent work. Mr. Allen was born in Maysville, Kentucky, in 1827, and is a son of Charles and Sally (Leshner) Allen.

Charles Allen was born in 1791, and died in 1831. He married Sally Leshner, who died at the age of thirty-five years. They were the parents of three children, as follows: Charles, who was drowned when a boy; Joseph, the gentleman whose name heads these lines; and William, of Maysville, Kentucky.

Joseph Allen served an apprenticeship as a stone-mason, and followed the trade for six years. He helped to build the county jail and court-house of Mason county, Kentucky, and

also many of the residences in the town of Maysville. He farmed in Mason and Bracken counties until 1880, in which year he moved to Kansas, and bought a farm in section 10, Labette township, Labette county. There he successfully followed farming and stock raising until 1894, when he retired to Altamont, where he has since resided. He is a man of high character and is greatly esteemed by his friends and acquaintances throughout the county.

In 1851 Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Margaret Galbraith, who died in 1878, leaving the following children: Lettie, wife of S. B. Lynd, of Parsons, Kansas, by whom she has three children,—Maude, Claude, and Audra; William F. and Joseph G., who are farmers in Labette township; Charles, who is with Company C, 20th Reg., U. S. Army, now stationed at Manila; and Maggie, who is living with her brothers. Mr. Allen contracted a second marriage in 1892, by wedding Martha Galbraith. Fraternally, the subject of this sketch is a member of the A. F. & A. M. In religious attachments, he is a member of the Church of Christ.

**F**EROME B. HOTCHKISS, engineer of the "Katy Flyer," running opposite Engineer Tierney, is one of the most capable and successful engineers on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, and is a prominent citizen of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas.

Mr. Hotchkiss is of English origin, and traces his ancestry back to Samuel Hotchkiss, who was one of Davenport's New Haven Company, which settled the city of New Haven, Connecticut, in 1638. From Samuel the lineage is traced down successively through "En-



sign" Joshua, Stephen, Gideon, and David, to Gilead, the grandfather of Jerome B. Gilead Hotchkiss lived to be one hundred and six years old, and the family is particularly noted for the longevity of its members. He was a wealthy New Yorker, and at one time was a member of the board of trustees of Auburn, New York. He speculated on land in the vicinity of Chicago, long before that city was ever thought of. Various members of the family served in the Revolutionary War, and rose to the rank of officers.

H. B. Hotchkiss, the next in line, was the father of Jerome B. He was a native of the state of New York, where his marriage took place. In 1848 he left that state for Calhoun county, Michigan. The following year he traveled overland to California, and then, after being successful in mining for a few years, returned to his family in Michigan. His death occurred in September, 1862. He was united in marriage with Laura A. Cooper, a native of Pennsylvania. She is still living at the advanced age of eighty-two years. Twelve children were born to her and her husband, of whom five reached maturity, as follows: Rush, a well known property owner of Spokane, Washington; Jerome B., the subject of this sketch; Charles, a locomotive engineer in Minnesota; H. B., also an engineer, and president of a mining company in Spokane, Washington; and Warren, for many years also a railroad man, but now in the hotel business in California.

Jerome B. Hotchkiss was born near Auburn, New York, at a place called Carver's Corner, December 17, 1844. While still small, his parents moved to Allegany county, New York, and later to Michigan. He had exceptional educational advantages. After passing through the common schools, he at-

tended high school at Battle Creek, Michigan, and subsequently took a thorough course in Albion College. When old enough to choose a vocation for himself, he readily adopted railroading. January 27, 1863, he began work as fireman on one of the old hook-motion wood-burner engines at Marshall, Michigan, on the Michigan Central Railroad. He remained on that road for three years, and then followed similar work on the Chicago & North-Western Railway, running out of Clinton, Iowa, west to Belle Plaine, Iowa. In January, 1870, promotion followed and Mr. Hotchkiss became an engineer on the same system. He has followed this line of work ever since. He pulled both freight and passenger trains on the Chicago & North-Western Railway until 1878. On account of failing health, he was then obliged to seek a milder climate and accordingly came south to Kansas. It was his intention to seek a position on the Santa Fe road, and he carried letters of introduction and recommendation to the master mechanic at Topeka, Kansas. Having acquaintances at Parsons, he went there on a visit, previous to soliciting a situation. While there he was induced to seek a position on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, which he did, and decided to remain in Parsons.

September 5, 1878, he commenced work on the "Katy," first pulling freight trains north to Junction City, and continued on that run for several years. Advancement followed, and he became a passenger engineer, and has run as such up to the present time; he is now pulling the "Katy Flyer,"—one of the fastest trains on the system.

Mr. Hotchkiss was joined in marriage with Maria Olivia Alexander, a daughter of Charles and Juliette (Praddock) Alexander, respected residents of Marshall, Michigan.

Mrs. Hotchkiss was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan; when she was nine years old her parents removed to Marshall. Her father was of English origin, and passed to his final rest in 1885, aged seventy-one years. He was a well-read, influential man, and mainly followed the occupation of farming. He was always a staunch Democrat. He assisted in the survey of Wisconsin, and camped out at Sheboygan. Five children were born to him and his wife, namely: Charles Henry, now engaged in the hardware business in Chicago; Maria Olivia, the wife of Mr. Hotchkiss; Lydia Jane (Peters), of Clyde, Kansas; Albert, an employee in the postoffice at Riverside, California; and Theodore L., a printer in Chicago, Illinois.

Two sons have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hotchkiss. Charles B., the only living child, was born September 14, 1866, in Marshall, Michigan. He married Ethel Hearst, resides in the city of Parsons, and is teller of the First National Bank of that city. Harry, deceased, was born November 3, 1871, and died when six months old. Mr. Hotchkiss purchased a fine residence from Engineer J. F. Russell, at No. 1923 Clark avenue, where he is very pleasantly situated. He has always voted a straight Republican ticket, although the family politics were Democratic up to the time of President Buchanan. Mr. Hotchkiss has served four years as alderman from the Fourth Ward. He is a member of Division No. 179, B. of L. E., of Parsons, having been transferred from Division No. 125, B. of L. E., of Clinton, Iowa. He has filled all the chairs, and for the past fifteen years has been secretary. He joined the A. O. U. W., in 1883, and is still a member, his wife being a member of the Degree of Honor. She is also a member of the Knights and Ladies of America, while

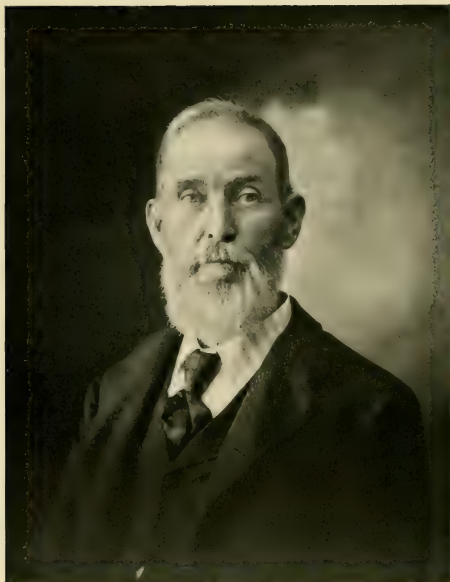
Mr. Hotchkiss affiliates with the order of B. P. O. E., Lodge No. 527. In their religious views, they are members of the Baptist church. Mr. Hotchkiss has had a few accidents to contend with in his lengthy railroad career, none of which, however, has been of a serious nature. Altogether, he has been most fortunate and successful, and his success has been but the just reward of his carefulness and superior skill.



W. McEWEN, a gentleman prominent in the financial circles of Labette county, Kansas, is vice-president of the Citizens State Bank of Chetopa, which is owned by the McEwen family. In addition to this, he carries on a large business in private loans, etc., having a separate office for this purpose. He is a man of great strength of character, and of pleasing personality, and has many friends throughout the county. He was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, in 1841, and is a son of J. R. and Nancy (Crooks) McEwen. J. R. McEwen and his wife were of Scotch descent, and of the United Presbyterian faith. He was a farmer and died in Ohio.

G. W. McEwen was reared in Pennsylvania, where he attended the common schools and at the same time handled the plow and drove oxen for his father. He removed to Guernsey county, Ohio, with his father, in 1867. He was married there, made that county his home, and followed farming until 1872. Then he returned to Pennsylvania and engaged in the lumber business at Oakdale, Allegheny county. In 1876 he removed to Gage county, Nebraska, where he was engaged in farming until the spring of 1880. He then came to Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas, where he





ROBERT A. BARTLETT.

was engaged in mercantile pursuits for three and a half years with his brother-in-law, J. F. Sterling. In 1884 he commenced the loan business, and was for a time in partnership with F. M. Smith, now of Vinita, Indian Territory, but now conducts it alone.

Mr. McEwen was united in matrimony, in Ohio, with Mattie Best, who died in 1889, at the age of thirty-nine years leaving three children: John F.; Winnie, who died in 1897, at the age of nineteen years; and W. C. In 1892 Mr. McEwen formed a second marital union,—Kate Slagle, of Columbus, Ohio, becoming his wife. In politics he is a strong Republican; he has been a councilman, and also on the school board for the past twelve years. He was clerk of the board of education for ten years. He joined the Ancient Order of United Workmen in 1880, and is still an active member of the lodge at Chetopa. He was reared in the United Presbyterian faith.

**R**OBERT A. BARTLETT, whose portrait appears herewith, is one of the most prosperous farmers of Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, and it was in his honor that the town of Bartlett was named. He was born in Delaware county, Indiana, in 1836, and is a son of Robert L. Bartlett.

Robert L. Bartlett was born in Harrison county, West Virginia, and was a farmer by occupation. He was joined in Hymen's bonds with Mrs. Mary Hall, and they became parents of the following children: Mary, Eleanor, John, Emily and Enoch, all deceased; and Robert A.

Robert A. Bartlett lived in his native state until he reached the age of fourteen years, when he went to Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin,

and finally returned, in 1857, to Indiana, where he located at Anderson. He followed the trade of a carpenter and was a resident of Anderson until 1869. In the spring of that year he journeyed west to Labette county, Kansas, and in 1870 located on his present farm,—the southwest quarter of section 27, Hackberry township. He built a cabin 12 by 12 feet, in size, on his claim, and through several conspicuous improvements made it one of the most valuable pieces of land in the community. The town of Bartlett is located on his northwest 40 acres and, as before mentioned, was named in his honor. The town was organized in 1887, with Mr. Bartlett as president, and Charles C. Black, as secretary. The land on which he located was one of the many tracts claimed by the railroad company, and he was one of the foremost in contesting the title of the adverse claimant. He, with other farmers, fought the railroad corporation in the courts for a period of five years, and finally won. At the present time he rents his farm. In 1895, he built a handsome, two-story, frame residence, of 15 rooms, nicely arranged and equipped with modern conveniences.

Mr. Bartlett was united in matrimony with Lucinda J. Makepeace, who was born in Indiana, in 1836, and they have reared the following children: Hattie, Norman, John, Edith, and Nellie. Politically, Mr. Bartlett is a strong Republican. He belongs to Chetopa Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.



**E. WELCH**, of Parsons, Kansas, has a fine record as an engineer and conductor, and has distinguished himself in these capacities on various roads. He is a nephew of L. W. Welch,

superintendent of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, at Parsons.

Mr. Welch was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, in 1851, and is a son of Stephen S. and Fayette (Edwards) Welch, who were descendants of English ancestors. His father was a native of New York, and died in Pennsylvania, in 1879. The mother of C. E. Welch came, with her people, from Rhode Island, her father having been a port inspector for over fifty years. C. E. Welch is one of a family of three children. One sister, Louise, is deceased, and another sister, Frances, is now Mrs. W. D. Whittaker, and resides at Waverly, New York. The family moved to Scranton, Pennsylvania, where the subject hereof attended the common schools. He joined the 50th N. Y. Vol. Engineer Corps, as a drummer boy, and was mustered out with his regiment, in 1865, having sustained no injury during the whole time of his army service.

In 1866 Mr. Welch returned to Scranton, Pennsylvania, and began work as fireman on the Delaware Lackawanna & Western Railroad, and later on the Geneva, Ithaca & Athens Railroad. He was promoted to be an engineer, in 1871, and ran an engine on the Geneva, Ithaca & Athens Railroad until 1875. He spent the following year on the Missouri Pacific Railway,—running on the Sedalia division. In 1876 he entered the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway as brakeman on the Sedalia Division. After working thus one year, he returned to the Missouri Pacific Railway, as engineer,—running out of Sedalia to Kansas City; he remained on that road until 1890. Returning to service on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, with headquarters at Parsons, he spent the following year as engineer,—

covering runs to Muskogee and Denison, Texas. Mr. Welch then became a conductor, and served as such in the freight department. He has been in charge of the chain-gang running out of Parsons for the past seven years. Mr. Welch is interested in property in Parsons, and has a comfortable home. He was married at Sedalia, Missouri, to Mary Lynch, a native of that city. Three children were the result of this union: Stephen G., formerly of Denver, Colorado, who was employed on the Denver, Texas & Fort Worth Railway, and later enlisted in a volunteer company and sailed to the Philippines; and Mary Esther and Charles W., who are at school.

Mr. Welch is a Democrat, in politics. Externally, he is a member of the O. R. C., and also of the B. of L. E., Division No. 179, of Parsons. Mrs. Welch is a member of the auxiliaries of both orders. In their religious views, they are Catholics, and are devout and faithful members of that church.



MISS M. NELLIE MCGINLEY.

This estimable lady is the efficient superintendent of the Chetopa High School, and is widely known in Labette county. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and is a daughter of P. C. and Anna (Brady) McGinley.

Her father, who was a native of County Donegal, Ireland, came to America in 1857, and located at Cleveland, Ohio. He married Anna Brady, and their union was blessed with five children: F. J., a merchant of Norman, Oklahoma; P. J., cashier for the Missouri Pacific Railway Company, at Coffeyville, Kansas; Anna; Hannah, a teacher in the Pittsburg, Kansas, schools; and Margaret Helen, the sub-



ject of this biography, who, with her mother and sisters, has her home in Chetopa. Mr. McGinley died at Norman, Oklahoma, in 1897.

Miss McGinley received her primary education at Cleveland, Ohio, where she lived until her parents removed to Chetopa, in 1875. She was one of the first graduates of the Chetopa High School, in the class of 1883, which consisted of four members. Subsequently Miss McGinley attended the Kansas State Normal School at Emporia, and also the University of Chicago. Her first work as instructor, a task to which she is admirably adapted, was in 1883, when she accepted a position in the primary department of the Chetopa schools under Superintendent J. W. Weltner. She has since taught in all the grades. In the fall of 1897 her superior ability was recognized, and she was made superintendent of the Chetopa High School, which position includes the superintendency of the city schools. She is at the head of 10 teachers and 700 pupils. Miss McGinley gives the names of the 12 members in the 1901 graduating class of the Chetopa High School, and they are as follows: Charles Crookhan; Ethel Smith; Pearl Remington; Mabel Rosier; May McPherson; Nell Miller; John Thompson; Charles Amos; Ada Simons; Jennie Cooper; Hannah Cunningham; and Bertha Ditzler. Miss McGinley has had a thorough education, and is well prepared to take charge of such a large number of scholars. Her duties are arduous and exacting, but she manages to find time in which to keep thoroughly informed on all progressive movements in educational circles. The Chetopa High School is a large and handsome building, and one of which any town might well be proud. The citizens of Chetopa have just cause to feel that the training of its young people could not be placed under better super-

vision than Miss McGinley's. She is greatly esteemed by all who come in contact with her pleasing personality. Miss McGinley is a member of the district and county teachers' associations. In religious views, she is a Catholic.

---

**E**RASTUS A. MILLIKEN. This gentleman is the well known and efficient postmaster of Valeda, Labette county, Kansas. He has been a resident of this county since 1882, and is owner of a well improved farm in Howard township. He was born in Shelby county, Illinois, in 1871, and is a son of H. F. and Mary A. (Jones) Milliken.

H. F. Milliken was a native of Shelby county, and was born in 1850. He was a prominent farmer of Labette county for many years. He married Mary A. Jones, who was born in Spencer county, Indiana. They reared three children: Erastus A.; Bertha G.; and Ada M.

Erastus A. Milliken, whose name heads this biography, was eleven years old when his parents removed to Labette county, where they located, two miles northeast of the town of Edna. After residing there seventeen months, they moved to Howard township, and there Mr. Milliken lived until he reached the age of nineteen years. He spent one year in Illinois, and returned to Howard township in 1890, where he farmed until March, 1900. His farm is the southwest quarter of section 29, township 34, range 18. He now rents part of this farm, and on the remainder carries on general farming for himself. He was appointed postmaster of Valeda, January 5, 1901, and bids fair to hold this position several terms.

Mr. Milliken married Mellie M. Townsend,

who was born in Indiana in 1872. They have one child.—Charles M. Mr. Milliken is a Republican in politics, and takes an active interest in all local affairs. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, Valeda Lodge, No. 7511; and also to Edna Lodge, No. 368, I. O. O. F. He is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. Mr. Milliken attends the Methodist church. He is a man of honest and upright principles, and is held in high esteem by his fellow citizens.



WILLIAM G. KOCH, train dispatcher for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, at Parsons, Kansas, is a native of Gray Summit, Franklin county, Missouri. He is the youngest son of Herman and Wilhelmina (Tappe) Koch. His father was a native of Lippe Detmold, Germany, while his mother descended from Brunswick (Germany) ancestors. She is still living, but the father is now deceased.

The family left Germany, where the parents were married, and where several of their children were born, in 1855, and came to America. They located in St. Louis, Missouri, where Herman Koch engaged in the shoe business. With the exception of three years spent as a soldier during the Civil War, he followed this business continuously for the remainder of his life. The parents remained in St. Louis until most of the children were grown and scattered. The family consisted of nine children, as follows: Fred, who died at the age of twenty years; the second child, who died in infancy; Sophia (Neuhaus), who resides on a farm in Franklin county, Missouri; Herman, who died aged twenty years; Amelia, wife of Mr. Hellman, secretary of the Interna-

tional Cigar Makers' Union, at St. Louis, Missouri, where Mrs. Heilman studied medicine and is now a practicing physician; Henry, who died in infancy, as did also the next child in order of birth; Julius J., a conductor on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, at Parsons; and William G., the subject of this biography.

William G. Koch had limited educational advantages, having attended the common schools only. He left home when but thirteen years old, having previously studied telegraphy at Gray Summit, Missouri. After leaving home, he worked at telegraphy, for which he had a special aptitude. He worked as night operator at New Haven, Missouri, on the Missouri Pacific Railway. He subsequently filled similar positions at Kansas City, Pleasant Hill, Missouri, and Chetopa, Kansas.

May 1, 1887, Mr. Koch was promoted, and served as a regular operator at Parsons, Kansas, until June of the following year. Further advancement then followed and he became train dispatcher under Chief Cowden. For the past three years he has worked the second trick,—that is, from 4 o'clock P. M. to midnight.

Mr. Koch was joined in wedlock with Ida L. Prather, a daughter of Henry and Lydia (Livesay) Prather. Mrs. Koch was born near McCune, Kansas, in 1877. Her father is now successfully engaged in the coal business at Parsons. Her sister, Bertha Prather, is a competent clerk in Bing's clothing store, in the same city.

Politically, Mr. Koch is a Republican; he is not a member of any fraternal society. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church. They own a comfortable and attractive residence at No. 1900 Morgan avenue, and take a deep and intelligent interest in the welfare of





ALEXANDER McCULLY.

Parsons, of which community they are considered model citizens.

**A**LLEXANDER McCULLY, who conducts a large livery and transfer business at Oswego, Labette county, Kansas, is also engaged in breeding and selling blooded horses, owning some of the best known animals in the state.

Mr. McCully was born near Belfast, Ireland, November 18, 1851, and there received his education. He took up the trade of a stone-mason and followed that and contracting in St. Louis, where he located in 1868. He moved to Oswego, Kansas, in 1871, and there also followed the trade of a stone-mason and did contracting until 1873. In the latter year he moved back to St. Louis where he contracted for the following ten years, and in 1883 returned to Oswego, Kansas. He turned his attention to farming and stock raising, in which he was fairly successful for a period of three years. In 1886 he moved into the city of Oswego and engaged in the livery and transfer business, in addition to which he has bought and sold horses and mules.

Mr. McCully is a stock breeder of wide reputation, and owns the following well-known animals: **ROUNDS' SPRAGUE**, 4194. Record 2:24½. At sixteen years of age sire of: Jennie Sprague, 2:15¼; Victor Sprague, 2:15½; Elsie Sprague, 2:18½; Raven Sprague, 2:19¼; Afro, 2:20; Eldridge, 2:20; Tempest (p), 2:17; Grant, 2:17½; El Reno, 2:18; J. F. R. (p), 2:18½; The Judge; Yula, 2:27½; J. C. L., 2:29¼; Gypsy Goldust (p), 2:24¾; Miss Grant, 2:27¼; Hat Sprague, 2:24¾; Bill Cody, 2:29; Mathewson, 2:29¼;

Frank Logan, 2:25; Sprague Junior, 2:30; Nora Marks (p), 2:23; Fred P., 2:28½; Blanche (p), 2:24½; El Reno (p) 3, 2:30; and Durango (1), 2:48. He is a grandsire of Searcher (2), 2:17¼; Topsy S. (p), 2:09¼; John Kenney (p), 2:16; Lady Clarissa, 2:20½. He is by Governor Sprague, 444, record 2:20½, sire of: Charlie P., 2:11¼; Sprague Goldust, 2:15¾; Kate Sprague, 2:18; Calvina Sprague, 2:19¾; and 35 others better than 2:30. He is also sire of the dams of McKinney, 2:12½; Sprague Wilkes, four-year-old, 2:18; Atlanta, 2:24½; Canary Bird, three-year-old, 2:19¼; and Blameless, 2:30. The dam of Round's Sprague is Davis Maid, by Mambrino Prince, son of Mambrino Chief, II. Governor Sprague is a son of Rhode Island, 267, 2:23½, sire of Jim Scribler, 2:21¼ (sire of Lettie Waterman, 2:22¼). Governor Sprague's dam was dam of Bell Brandon, dam of Amy, 2:20¼; Governor Sprague, 2:20½; and Wilmer, 2:29¼. Bell Brandon was by Hambletonian, 16, sire of Dexter, 2:17¼, and 46 others in the 2:30 list. Rounds' Sprague is the leading sire of Kansas, has more 2:30 performers and more 2:20 performers than any other horse in the state. He is seal brown, 16 hands high, and weighs 1,200 pounds. **MAMBRINO MORGAN**, by Wonder Morgan, dam, Holly, by Mambrino Mohawk, son of Mambrino Patchen, full brother to Lady Thorn, 2:18¼, and sire of London, 2:20½ Jewess, 2:26, and 17 others in the 2:30 list; and sire of the dams of 68 with records from 2:15½ to 2:30, eight being in 2:30 or better. Wonder Morgan, by Excelsior, son of Green Mountain Blackhawk, he by the world renowned Old Blackhawk, of Burlington, Vermont. Mambrino Morgan is a beautiful chestnut sorrel, 16 hands high, and weighs 1,300 pounds, being an ideal coach

horse. ALEXANDER MC., by Aladdin, 2235, dam, Betsey King (standard), dam of Raven Sprague, 2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; brown mare, 15 $\frac{3}{4}$  hands high, sired by Menelaus, Jr., he by Menelaus, by Hambletonian (10); first dam, Mollie King, by Yorkshire Lexington; second dam, Brunette, by Mambrino Chief (11); third dam, Nancy King, by Gifford Morgan; fourth dam, Pope Mare, by Sherman Morgan (2626). Alexander Mc. is a beautiful seal brown, 15.2 $\frac{1}{2}$  hands high and will surely make a race horse. It is the intention to put him in training and he promises to be one of the best young horses in the state. AMANITO, 13501 (full blood Percheron), by Extrador, he by Favera, 1542, son of Monarch, 205. Extrador was a famous show horse, weighing 2,200 pounds, and won more first moneys in the show ring than any other horse. Imported by Dillon Brothers. Amanito is a beautiful black, possessing extra bone, with good feet, making him a superior draft horse; he weighs 1,800 pounds. BLACK DUKE. A black jack with light points; 15 hands high; foaled May 7, 1890. He is a grand jack, up-headed, with great Roman nose, broad forehead, fine tapering ear, broad breasted, heavy bodied, deep through the heart, large flat bone and good feet, good disposition and well enough bred for a jennet jack. BUMPER. A black jack, with light points, five years old and 14.2 hands high. A wonderfully smooth, finely finished and proportioned fellow. Lengthy with large bone and good feet.

In 1872, Mr. McCully was united in marriage with Paline Ashley, of Oswego, and they are parents of four children: William J., who married Miss Bickle; Maggie M. (Stice); Alice; Jessie (Kirshaw). Fraternal-ly, he is a member of the Independent Order

of Odd Fellows, and Knights of Pythias. He is a Republican in politics. A portrait of Mr. McCully accompanies this sketch.



FRANK SHRADER, who lives on a well improved farm in the northwest quarter of section 13, township 35, range 17, in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, has been one of the prominent farmers in the southwestern part of the county since 1888. He was born near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1863, and is a son of William and Eliza (Byers) Shrader.

William Shrader was a native of Pennsylvania, and was a farmer and coal dealer by occupation. He married Eliza Byers, who was also a native of that state. They reared six children: John; Frank; Alice; Fred, deceased; Bertha; and Samuel.

Frank Shrader was reared and schooled in the county in which he was born. He engaged in the coal business in Pennsylvania, and in 1883 decided to go West. He accordingly set out for Kansas, and on his arrival located in Labette county. He bought his present farm, and there he has since carried on general farming. He has always been a hard working man, has taken great pride in the care of his farm, and has made several good improvements on the place.

Mr. Shrader was united in marriage with Maggie Hendricks, who was born in Missouri, in 1873, and they have one child, Frank. Mr. Shrader is a Republican, in politics. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian church. The subject of this sketch is well known in Howard township, and is an active worker in all enterprises which tend to develop the township and county.



**I**SAAC McCARTY, one of the most honored and respected citizens of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, has been located in the town of Valeda since 1890, and at one time was engaged in the grain and stock business. He is now virtually living in retirement. Although he has seen seventy-seven years of life, his capacity for business is unimpaired, and he uses the same keen judgment and foresight which has always characterized his transactions.

Mr. McCarty was born in the mountains of Tennessee, in 1824, and is a son of Thomas McCarty, a native of Tennessee, who followed the calling of a farmer. Isaac McCarty was but one year old when his parents moved to Putnam county, Indiana, and there he resided until he reached the age of twenty-three years. In the fall of 1847 he located in Henry county, Iowa, where he lived six years, and thence went to Des Moines county, Iowa, where one of his sons now resides on the old home farm. He continued to live there until he came to Kansas in 1885; he spent the winter of that year in Oswego. He then went to Texas, but returned to Oswego in the fall of 1886. In the spring of the following year he located in the Indian Territory, five miles south of Valeda, and was engaged in ranching there for a period of four years. He located in Valeda in 1890, and was successfully engaged in grain and stock dealing until 1895. He is a man of pleasing personality, and a clever conversationalist, and has made many friends wherever he has lived. He now owns three farms in Howard township, all of which he rents.

Mr. McCarty was united in marriage with Miss M. A. Sharp, who was born in Owen county, Indiana, in 1833, and they have reared the following offspring: G. J., a farmer, of Howard township; W. D., a farmer, of Iowa;

John L., who is also located in Iowa; Alexander H., of Oswego, Kansas; Mary; S. M.; Frank O.; Charles B.; and Anna B. (Fitch). Politically, Mr. McCarty is a staunch Democrat, and while a resident of Iowa served as clerk of the township and county, and as a member of the school board. Religiously, he is a devout member of the Baptist church, and is also a minister of that denomination.

**W. CLARK.** Among the pioneer settlers of Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He is living in Elm Grove township, in section 35, township 34, range 19. Mr. Clark was born in Jackson county, Iowa, in 1863, and is a son of Robison and Levenia (Baber) Clark.

Robison Clark was born in Dayton, Ohio, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. Later in life he removed to Labette county, where he died January 1, 1899. He married Levenia Baber, who was born in Virginia, and they reared the following children: Samuel; Charles; Martha; John; Ella; H. W.; Sadie; George; Cora; and Jesse.

In the fall of 1879, when Mr. Clark was fifteen years old, he removed with his parents to Kansas. His father located one mile south-east of H. W. Clark's present farm. His parents resided there during all of their active period. Mr. Clark, after his marriage, rented a farm a half mile south of his present farm, and made this place his home for nine years. He bought his farm in section 35, in 1895, but did not settle on it until two years later. He built a one and a half story, six-room house, of frame, and has made various improvements. He carries on general farming and has had a successful career.

Mr. Clark was wedded to Sarah J. Triplet, who was born in Illinois, in 1864. Their children are: Mildred; Ethel; and Vesta. Mr. Clark has served as clerk of the school board in his township, and is a staunch Republican, in politics. He belongs to the Anti-Horse Thief Association. Religiously, he and the members of his family attend the Christian church.

Mr. Clark is a progressive citizen, and is highly respected by his acquaintances.

**E**DGAR ROSBORO, deceased, was for many years a prominent farmer, residing in Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, in section 20, township 34, range 19. He was born in New York, May 6, 1838, and his death occurred December 6, 1900. He was reared and educated in his native state where he lived for a number of years. He followed the occupation of a farmer, and in addition conducted a hotel the greater part of the time. He located in Labette county, Kansas, in 1870, and settled on the farm on which his wife still resides. There he carried on farming until his death, and was considered one of the best farmers in the county. He was a man who won the confidence of all who came in contact with him, and his friends were legion. Mr. Rosboro's death was greatly mourned in the community, as he was a liberal supporter of all worthy enterprises, and was held in high esteem by all.

Mr. Rosboro was united in marriage with Eda Goodwin. She was born in New York in 1857, and lived there until 1879. In that year her father, Daniel Goodwin, moved to Labette county. He was born in Canada, and was a sawyer and farmer by occupation. He

married Elizabeth Wilson, a native of Canada, and they reared two children, namely: Eda, wife of the subject of this sketch; and Ella, who married a Mr. Murphy, and lives in Edna, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Rosboro were blessed with five children, two of whom, Mabel and Shirley, are living. Mabel is the wife of Pearl Johnson, who has conducted the farm since Mr. Rosboro's death; Mr. and Mrs. Johnson live on the homestead with Mrs. Rosboro. Shirley is attending the public schools at Edna. Mr. Rosboro was a Populist, in politics. He was a member of the Methodist church, and died a Christian.

Mrs. Rosboro is a member of the Methodist church, in which she takes an active interest. She is a woman of many estimable qualities, and is a kind and generous neighbor.


**H**OLTEN, a prominent resident of Edna, Kansas, is proprietor of the City Mill, which he built in 1889, and has since operated. He is a good manager and has a thriving business. He was born in Ripley county, Indiana, in 1855, and is a son of W. H. Holten.

W. H. Holten was born in Ripley county, Indiana, and applied himself to agricultural pursuits. He married Miss B. Waggoner, and they reared four children, as follows: W. A., a shoemaker by trade, residing in Ripley county, Indiana; V., the subject of this biography; H. L.; and Sarah J. For his second wife he married Eliza J. Hayden, by whom he had five children: J. F., of Edna, Kansas; Margaret; Anna Martha; Robertha; and Emma, deceased.

V. Holten lived in his native county until 1878, learning the carpenter's trade there, and

in that year came to Labette county, Kansas, and located three miles west of Edna, in Howard township. He located in Edna in 1889 and built his present mill, known as the City Mill, which he has since operated with much success. He is a man of high principles, honesty and integrity and enjoys the friendship of his fellow citizens to a marked degree. He also operated a threshing machine for more than twenty years.

Mr. Holten was united in marriage with Catharine Burns, who was born in Kentucky, and they have two children: Lee H.; and Emma. In politics, he is a strong supporter of the Republican party and is now serving as mayor of Edna. He belongs to Edna Lodge, No. 1636, M. W. of A.


RANCIS O. POTTER, a native of Lawrence county, Indiana, was born in 1856. He came to Labette county in 1883, and has lived here ever since. He is at present residing in the southeast quarter of section 7, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township, where he carries on general farming.

B. H. Potter, his father, was born in Lawrence county, Indiana, in 1832, and came to Labette county in 1890. He is now a resident of Elm Grove township and lives just south of his son's place. He married Nancy Owens, who was born in Tennessee, in 1831. They were the parents of two children,—Francis O. and Lawrence. Francis O. Potter's mother died in June, 1901.

Francis O. Potter lived in Indiana until he removed to Kansas. He attended the public schools in his native county, and at an early age began to learn the occupation which has

been his life pursuit,—that of farming. He has had a thorough training in agricultural matters, and is one of the most enterprising farmers in Labette county. In 1883 he located in Elm Grove township, where he bought a farm in section 19, township 34, range 19, one mile north of Edna. He lived there for eight years and then bought his present farm. Mr. Potter now owns 320 acres of land, which is in a fine state of cultivation. He carries on general farming, and also raises some stock and fruit. He has one of the most attractive farms in the county, and is well known as a man of honest and upright business principles.

Mr. Potter was united in marriage with Elmira C. Sears, who was born in Lawrence county, Indiana, in 1858. They have reared five children: Earl; Mabel; Charles; Bennie; and Clyde. In politics, Mr. Potter is a firm Republican, and has served on the school board of his township for a number of years. He is a member of the Christian church.

A. VANCE, a well known farmer, living in section 19, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, has been a resident of the county since 1870. He was born in Adams county, Ohio, in 1849, and is a son of McGovney and Elizabeth (Sanders) Vance.

His father was also a native of Ohio, where he carried on farming all his life. He married Elizabeth Sanders, and they reared six children: Amanda; Anna, deceased; Belle; Emma; C. A.; and Artemisia.

C. A. Vance, whose name heads this sketch, attended the schools of his native county, and, in the fall of 1870, located in Labette

county, Kansas. He took up a claim consisting of the north half of the southeast quarter of section 19, township 34, range 19, which he entered at Independence, Kansas, in 1871. He made improvements on this place, and it is now a well improved farm. Mr. Vance also owns 25 acres of land in the southwest quarter of section 19, and there he has lived since first coming to Kansas. He carries on general farming, and also runs a dairy. He has a thorough knowledge of agricultural matters, and is a thrifty, conscientious workman.

Mr. Vance was wedded to Belle Marks, who was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1861. She is a daughter of J. O. Marks, who for many years followed the trade of a carpenter and cabinetmaker, but is now a merchant in Edna, Kansas. Mr. Marks married Mary Ames, who was a native of Ohio. Their children were: Lincoln; Belle; Lydia; and Jessie and Frank, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Vance's union has resulted in the birth of four children, as follows: Bert Allen, who is now attending the County High School at Altamont, and is a member of the class of 1903; Ida Belle, who completed a course in the public schools of Edna, in the class of 1901; Esther; and Maurice.

Mr. Vance is a member of the Republican party, and takes an active interest in local politics. He is a member of the Sons and Daughters of Justice, Edna Lodge, No. 75. He and his family belong to the Methodist church.



AMUEL TILTON. His name is among those of the prominent farmers who are residents of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas. He was born in Clark county, Ohio, in 1834.

and is a son of David and Mary (Garver) Tilton.

David Tilton was a native of New Jersey, and a shoemaker by trade. He married Mary Garver, and they reared: Nancy J.; Jacob; Elizabeth; Samuel; Mary J.; David and Hester, deceased; and Sarah A. Mrs. Tilton was a native of Virginia. By a previous marriage with Thomas Forest, she had one son, William Forest, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume.

Samuel Tilton was reared and schooled in his native county. At the age of thirteen years, he removed with his parents to Blackford county, Indiana, where he remained until he was sixteen years of age. He then lived in Cass county, Indiana, until 1870, when he removed to Labette county, Kansas, and located in section 1, in the northeast quarter of township 34, range 19, Elm Grove township, where he has a well improved farm. Mr. Tilton bought the cabin which was on the claim, and in this he lived six years. It was but 12 by 14 feet, in dimensions. He entered his claim in 1877, in Independence, Kansas. This he at once began to improve, and up to 1901 he owned one of the best farms in Elm Grove township, where he carried on general farming and stock raising. He then retired and is living in Edna, Kansas, where he moved in June, 1901, after selling his farm. He is an honest and loyal citizen, and is highly respected in the community in which he resides.

Mr. Tilton was united in marriage with Elizabeth Smith. She was born in Cass county, Indiana, in 1835, and is a daughter of George M. Smith. Mr. Smith was a native of Ohio, and a farmer by occupation. He married Mary Fuller. Mr. and Mrs. Tilton have four children, namely: George, who is a

farmer in Elm Grove township; Clara A.; Theodore C.; and Marion J.

Politically, Mr. Tilton belongs to the Republican party. He was on the school board for a number of years. The family are members of the Methodist church.

---

**G**EORGE E. STONE. This gentleman is among the foremost farmers of Labette county, Kansas, and resides in Elm Grove township. He was born in Spencer county, Kentucky, in 1835, and is a son of Robert Stone.

Robert Stone was also a native of Kentucky, where he followed farming all his life. He married Susan Maguire, who was a native of that state, and they were the parents of five children, namely: George E.; Martha, deceased; Thomas, who is also a farmer in Labette county; Elizabeth E., and Robert L., deceased.

George E. Stone's early life was spent in his native county, where he attended school and learned to till the soil. In 1862 he enlisted in the Union army, and was attached to the 9th Reg., Ky. Vol. Cav. At the time of his enlistment he was a member of the militia, which was organized to drive General Bragg out of Kentucky. Mr. Stone removed to Howard township, Labette county, in 1874, and took up a claim, which he entered at Independence, Kansas. He bought a cabin from Mr. Park, which he moved to his claim. He resided on this farm until 1899, meanwhile improving the property and following diversified farming. In 1900 Mr. Stone bought the north half of the northwest quarter of section 19, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township, and has made this place his home since

that time. He is well up in agricultural matters, and takes great pride in making his home an attractive one.

Mr. Stone was united in marriage with Mildred Crutcher, who was born in Kentucky, in 1836. The subject of this sketch is a Democrat, in politics, and has always taken much interest in local political affairs. The people have shown their confidence in him by electing him to the office of trustee of Howard township for two terms, and also to the office of justice of the peace. He has been a member of the school board for about twenty years. Fraternally, Mr. Stone is a member of the Masonic order. He attends the Methodist church. He is an honest and upright citizen, and has many friends in the county.

---

**H**IRAM H. HOGGE, a native of Harrison county, Ohio, was born in 1854. He came to Labette county, Kansas, in 1874, and since that time has been one of the county's most prominent farmers. He is living in Elm Grove township, in the south half of the northwest quarter of section 3, township 34, range 19.

Robert Hogge, his father, was born in Pennsylvania, where he married Catherine DeWitt, who was a native of New Jersey. They reared four children: Phoebe A.; Hiram H.; John; and Hattie.

Hiram H. Hogge was reared in his native county, where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil War. He enlisted in Company E, 60th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., in February, 1864, and served until February, 1865. He then returned to Ohio, and shortly afterward removed to Illinois, where he engaged in the harness business. He remained in Illinois

four years, and then returned to Ohio, and lived in Knox county for one year. He then removed to Bates county, Missouri, where he farmed for six years. Subsequently, he located in Labette county, Kansas, south of Altamont, where he lived until 1892. He then bought his present farm in Elm Grove township, which is the south half of the northwest quarter of section 3, township 34, range 19. He has made all the improvements on the farm, and it now presents a very good appearance. Mr. Hogue maintains all the modern methods of tilling the soil, and is an energetic and thrifty farmer.

The subject of this sketch married Adie Davis, who was born in Switzerland county, Indiana, in 1851. They have reared the following children: Nellie; Hattie; Lula; Hurley; Hubert; Mollie; and Marshall. Mr. Hogue is a member of the Republican party.



WILLIAM FOUST, a well known resident of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Butler county, Ohio, October 18, 1824. He is a son of Thomas Foust, who was a farmer in Pennsylvania.

William Foust lived in his native state until 1861, when he enlisted in Company G, 73d Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf. He served three years, took part in the battle of Stone River, and was captured May 3, 1863, near Rome, Georgia. He was held as a prisoner for fifteen days, and was exchanged at East Point, Georgia. After the war Mr. Foust located in Cass county, Indiana, where he remained until he removed to Kansas. In 1883 he located on his present farm,—the east half of the northwest quarter of section 1, township 34, range 19, in Elm

Grove township, where he has since resided. He rents part of his farm. Mr. Foust raises some fruit, and is engaged in general farming.

Mr. Foust was united in marriage, August 7, 1845, in Clark county, Ohio, with Elizabeth Carmin, who died in 1883. They reared the following children, namely: Louis C.; B. J.; B. D.; Samuel A.; Sarah R.; William A.; Charles D.; Mattie L.; and John O. In 1889 Mr. Foust was married to Mrs. S. E. Brown, of Sparta, Illinois.

The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Religiously, he is a member of the Free Methodist church. Mr. Foust is well known in Labette county, where he is respected as an upright citizen.



JOHN W. HOWELL is a very prosperous merchant of Montana, Labette county, Kansas, where he conducts a flourishing grocery business. He has been a resident of this county since 1880, and is well known throughout this section. Mr. Howell was born in Mason county, Illinois, in 1850, and is a son of B. F. Howell.

B. F. Howell was born in Pennsylvania in 1828, and was a farmer by occupation. He was united in marriage with Amanda Henninger, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1832, and they reared the following children: John W., the subject of this sketch; Mary; Susan; Lovie; and Clark.

John W. Howell resided in his native county and was engaged in farming until 1880, when he came to Montana township, Labette county, Kansas. He located one and a half miles north of Montana, in the northwest quarter of section 5, Montana township, and the







MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH PRICE.

southwest quarter of section 32, Neosho township. He resided there until 1890, when he located in the town of Montana, and started there the first cheese factory in Labette county. He also had factories in Oswego and Chetopa, which he operated for a period of five years. He opened a grocery store in Montana in 1886, and has since engaged in that line of business.

Mr. Howell was united in marriage with Mary E. Goddard, who was born in Ohio in 1855. In politics he is independent. He is a member of Montana Lodge, No. 4, Home Builders' Union; and of the Masonic order. Religiously, he and his family are members of the Christian church.

**J**OSEPH PRICE. Among the best known and most highly respected farmers of Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name begins this sketch. He lives in section 20, township 33, range 18, where he carries on diversified farming. Mr. Price was born in Wales, in 1832, and when he was but three weeks old his parents died of cholera.

Mr. Price has no kin-folk in America as far as he knows. When his parents died, he was claimed by an uncle, whose name was John Pierce. Later, this uncle was accidentally burned to death. Mr. Price followed coal mining in Wales, and in 1861 came to America, where he settled in Pennsylvania. There he also mined, and afterward followed the same occupation in Ohio, Illinois, and Missouri. In 1872, he removed to Labette county, Kansas, having visited in the Sunflower State during the previous year. He took up in Mound Valley township the southwest quarter

of section 20, township 33, range 18, and subsequently bought a half section in Canada township. This claim in Mound Valley,—his present home,—was the only one not claimed by the railroad company. He bought the farm from John Williams, and paid \$750 for it. Later, he acquired title to the place. Mr. Williams had built a log house on the farm, and had broken about twenty-five acres of the land. Mr. Price has made many improvements and it is a very valuable piece of land. Pumpkin Creek enters near the center, on the north edge, and runs out near the southwest corner, thus affording a good supply of water. Mr. Price raises wheat, corn and oats, and cattle and hogs, having earned enough to buy other farms. He now owns 415 acres of land, and is a very prosperous man. He is a good manager, and much of his success has been due to that fact. He has been a diligent and conscientious worker, and has just cause to be proud of his home, which is one of the best in the county. He set out a goodly amount of hedge and a large number of trees, which bear fruit each year.

Mr. Price was married, in Wales, to Charlotte Andrews, who was born in 1825. They have been blessed with one daughter: Elizabeth Polly (Summers). She lives in the southwest part of Mound Valley township, and has five children, namely: William, aged twenty-one years; Olive, aged nineteen years; Eugene, aged sixteen years; Ray, aged twelve years; and Lorene, aged eight years.

Politically Mr. Price was formerly a Republican, and voted that ticket until Grant's second term. Since that time, he has been a follower of the Greenback party and the Union Labor party; and at present he is a Populist. Although he does not aspire to office, he takes an active interest in local politics. He was a

member of the I. O. O. F. fraternity, in Wales. He is liberal in religious views. There is no farmer in Mound Valley township and throughout Labette county, who is held in higher esteem than Mr. Price. He is a man who keeps posted on all topics of the day, and and is very fond of spending his leisure hours in reading standard literature. He is a good neighbor, and his friends are many. The following poem is appropriate in that it voices Mr. Price's sentiments in regard to the beloved Sunflower State:

"Old Empire is our father land,  
The home of long ago,  
Where in happy days of childhood  
We wandered to and fro,  
To pluck the meadow lily  
And the buttercup of gold,  
And thought the beauty of our home  
Could never half be told.

Long since we left that fairy spot  
To seek another clime,  
We found other lands more lovely  
With scenery more sublime.  
But the land that we have chosen  
And the one that we love best  
Is the sunny land of Kansas,  
The glory of the West.

We have heard of 'bleeding Kansas,'  
Of pestilence and dearth,  
And had learned to look upon her  
As the Sodom of the earth,  
Where the red man and the buffalo  
At liberty did roam,  
And poverty and want  
Invaded every home.

But the red man and his war trail  
Have both passed away,  
And the ashes from their camp-fires  
Have smouldered to decay.  
Whilst the poor affrighted buffalo  
Finds not a place to rest  
In all the land of Kansas,  
The glory of the West.

Ambition is the keystone  
To influence and fame;  
It has raised up struggling Kansas  
And won for her a name.  
Her broad extensive prairies  
Are beautiful to view  
When clothed in Nature's verdure  
And flowers of every hue.  
While endless fields of cereals,  
The largest and the best,  
Grow from the soil of Kansas,  
The glory of the West."

Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Price accompany the foregoing sketch, being shown on a page in proximity to this.



JAMES WILSON, a prominent merchant and grain dealer of Elm City, Labette county, Kansas, has been a resident of Elm Grove township since 1879. He was born in Ohio in 1833, and is a son of Hiram and Martha (Wallace) Wilson.

Hiram Wilson was born in Virginia in 1809, and was a carpenter and miller by trade. He married Martha Wallace, who was born in Pennsylvania, in 1811, and they reared seven children: Margaret; James; Samuel; Daniel; Henry; Martha; and George.

James Wilson learned the trade of a carpenter while young. He followed this until he enlisted, in 1863, in Company K, 78th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf.,—serving under General Sherman. He was honorably discharged, at Columbus, Ohio, at the close of the war. He saw much hard service, and took part in the battles at Savannah, Georgia, and Columbus and Orangeburg, South Carolina. He returned to Ohio at the close of the war. In 1879 he decided to remove to the West, and accordingly set out to make the trip by wagon. He con-

sumed fifty-three days in making the journey. After reaching Labette county he settled in Elm Grove township, where he farmed for four years. He returned to Ohio in 1883, on account of his father's failing health, and was engaged as a merchant until 1887. In 1887 he returned to Kansas, and opened his present store in Elm City, where he has since successfully carried on that business. He is also a dealer in grain. Mr. Wilson is a man of good business principles, and is quite prominent in Elm City. He is always interested in municipal affairs, and is one of the first to assist in any public enterprise.

Mr. Wilson married Matilda J. Thorne, who was born in Ohio in 1837, and their union has resulted in the birth of five children, namely: Margaret; H. A.; Martha A.; Mary A.; and D. J. H. A. is in partnership with his father, and is also postmaster of Elm City. He married Estella Hays, and they have two children,—Howard and Irene. Martha A. and Mary A. are twins.

Mr. Wilson is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the G. A. R., Post No. 279, of Edna. He belongs to the Anti-Horse Thief Association. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian church.



C. LIVESAY. Prominent among the many thrifty and successful farmers of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, is the subject of this sketch. In 1873 he sought a home in the West and carved out of wild and rough material his present farm, one of the finest and best improved pieces of real estate in Montana township. Mr. Livesay was born in Maury county, Tennessee, in 1825, and resided there

until 1832, when his parents moved to Washington county, Illinois. He is a son of Carter and Elizabeth (Wright) Livesay.

Carter Livesay was born in Virginia and followed farming. He was married three times and reared a large family of children. The following named were the fruit of his first union, that in which Elizabeth Wright, a native of Tennessee, was his wife: Charlotte, Polly, Thomas, Jesse, William, Caroline, George, Jane, A. C., Robert, Martha and John. By his second wife, Rachel Phillips, he had one child, Rachel. His third wife, Mabel Perkins, made him the father of three children: James, Nelson and Louis.

A. C. Livesay spent his boyhood in Washington county, Illinois, doing farm work, and when older learned the carpenter's trade, which he found of great service to him in building up his western home. He married Delinda Finch, a native of Jefferson county, Illinois, and moved to his present home in Montana township in 1873. Charles Williams, from whom he purchased his farm, had made some improvements on the land during his ownership, having built a cabin, sunk a well, planted Osage hedge on three sides of the farm, and broken 37 acres of ground. Since Mr. Livesay has had possession of the land, varied and modern improvements have sprung up on every side, making it one of the best farms in Montana township. In 1878 he built his present comfortable residence, a two-story, six-room structure. In politics Mr. Livesay is a Republican; he speaks with pride of the exciting scenes in connection with the elections of 1860-1864, and boasts of having cast his vote each time for Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. Livesay and wife have reared seven children. They are: William; Francis; Laura; Hicks; Edith; A. C., Jr.; and Charles.

A. C. Livesay, Jr., lives at home and oversees the farm work,—he is a Republican in politics, and served in 1898 as clerk of his township.

Mr. Livesay has profited by the years he has devoted to the pursuits of agriculture, and has developed into a man of broad ideas, who is thoroughly informed on all points relating in the remotest fashion to his business. He is a man of good purpose and his private and public life elicits the profound respect of those with whom he comes in contact. His advanced years do not prevent him from mingling with younger men in the active field of business, nor from taking an intelligent interest in matters of moment to the township, county and state at large. He is a citizen of whom any county might well be proud, and Labette county is fortunate in being mainly settled by representative men from the different states of the Union, who have sought homes within its borders.



MR. MELISSA WOOD. It is always a matter of the keenest interest to review the lives of pioneer settlers and note the changes time has made in their surroundings. The subject of this brief sketch is the daughter of John S. and Mary (Forbes) Slater. Her father, who was an Englishman, emigrated to the United States when a youth, eighteen years old. He married Mary Forbes, a native of Ireland, who came to America when a girl. They settled down to wedded life in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, where he followed the combined pursuits of carpenter, wagon-maker and farmer. They reared a family of four children, viz.: Sarah, deceased; Melissa; Lydia; and Eleanor.

Melissa Slater was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, in 1835, and resided there until she was about twenty years of age. She then moved to Jackson county, Iowa, where she resided until she moved to Kansas, with her husband, in 1875. They located on her present farm,—the west half of the northwest quarter of section 30, Montana township, on which she has resided since that time. She carries on general farming and fruit raising.

Nathaniel A. Wood, her husband, was a native of Ohio, and was born in 1818. He was reared to farm life, and followed that honorable calling all his life. Death called him from labor to rest, in 1889, at the ripe age of seventy-one years.

Mr. and Mrs. Wood reared three children, who are well advanced in the walks of life. Maxwell is employed by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, and resides in Denison, Texas; Alice lives at home with her mother, and is her comfort and solace in her declining years. Frank A. is employed by the Colorado Springs & Cripple Creek District Railway Company, and resides at Colorado Springs, Colorado. Mrs. Wood is a devout Christian woman, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church.



JOSEPH W. BROWN, a prominent and influential farmer of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, has been located on his present farm, in the northeast quarter of section 19, since 1867. He was born in Ohio in 1838, and is a son of J. and Mary A. (Myers) Brown.

J. Brown was born in Kentucky, and was a butcher and a blacksmith by trade, and followed these occupations at different times. He married Mary A. Myers, who was born in



Ohio, and they reared the following children: Benjamin; Joseph W.; LaFayette; Ellen; Emma; and Joshua.

Joseph W. Brown was reared in Iowa, and resided there until 1867, where his parents had located in Lee county. After residing there for two years he moved to Decatur county, Iowa, and farmed there until he came to Kansas; he also followed the trade of a carpenter for eight years. He came to Labette county, Kansas, in the spring of 1867, in wagons, leaving Iowa on May 7th, and arriving in Labette county on June 15th. He located on his present farm, in the northeast quarter of section 19, Montana township, and entered his claim at Humboldt, Kansas. He built a cabin, 16 feet square, and broke some land the first spring. He has since resided on this property, engaged in general farming. He has a well improved farm and excellent farm buildings, which are so necessary to a successful pursuance of this calling.

Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Elizabeth Burket, who was born in Indiana, and died in 1864. They were parents of the following children: Psyche and Mary E., both deceased; and Rerschel, who lives in Missouri. He formed a second union in 1866, wedding Martha Williams, who was born in Ohio; they are the parents of seven children, as follows: Minnie; Theodosia; Maud; Lloyd; Dallis; Murle; and Elsie. In politics Mr. Brown is independent, and has served on the school board of the township.



C. HILLIGOSS, a prominent citizen of the town of Montana, Labette county, Kansas, is a veteran of the Civil War, and bears an honorable record for service in that struggle. He was

born in Fayette county, Indiana, in 1847, and is a son of R. A. Hilligoss.

R. A. Hilligoss was born in Kentucky, and became a minister of the Gospel. He was united in marriage with Elizabeth Justice, a native of Kentucky, and they reared three children, as follows: A. C., the subject of this sketch; Frank L.; and Lila.

A. C. Hilligoss attended school until 1862, when he enlisted in Company I, 7th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf. He served with his regiment for five months, and then reenlisted in the 124th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., in which he served until the close of the war, under Colonel Burgess. He participated in the battles of Stone River, Franklin, Peach Tree Creek, and the sieges of Atlanta and Fort Fisher. After the war he returned to Indiana and attended school for one year. He came to Kansas on September 23, 1869, and located in Crawford county, where he resided until 1874. In that year he removed to Howard county, Kansas, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1891. He served as under-sheriff there for two years, and was county clerk from 1883 until 1887. He came to Labette county, located in Montana, Montana township, in 1891, and has since made his home here. He built his present fine residence in 1898,—one of the most attractive homes of the town. He also owns two substantial business blocks in Montana. He is a man of good business ability and many fine qualities, and has many warm friends.

Mr. Hilligoss was united in matrimony with Nellie J. Wolverton, who was born in Montana township. By a previous marriage with Belle Mizeley, of Iowa, he had four children, namely: Dolly; Charles, a farmer and stock raiser, of Montana township; William, a farmer in Kansas; and Lila, who lives at home. Politically, he is a staunch supporter of

the principles of the Republican party. He is a member of Stone River Post, No. 74, G. A. R. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America; and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In religious views, the family favor the M. E. church.

**F**REDERICK T. DIENST has been one of the leading farmers of Labette county since 1868, and resides in section 3, Labette township. He was born in Wayne county, Indiana, in 1853, and is a son of John H. and Henrietta (Gates) Dienst.

John H. Dienst was born in Germany, and was a tailor by trade. He married Henrietta Gates, who was also born in Germany, and they reared eight children: John L. and Caroline E., both deceased; Benjamin F., who lives in Parsons, Kansas; Frederick T.; George E.; Daniel W.; Lola E.; and James M.

When Frederick T. Dienst was fifteen years old he moved with his father to Osage township, Labette county, where they lived for six years. They lived three miles from the notorious Benders, of that township. In October, 1873, Mr. Dienst left Kansas, and went to Indiana, where he lived for ten years, during which time he was engaged in farming. In 1883 he returned to Labette county, and located in Labette township, where he has since resided. He is a thrifty farmer, and has been very successful.

Mr. Dienst married Sarah E. Keck, who was born in Hamilton county, Indiana, in 1857. She is a daughter of F. Keck, who was a German farmer. He married Miss McNeal, who was born in Wayne county, Indiana, and they reared two children, namely: Ellen and

Sarah E. Mr. and Mrs. Dienst have had seven children, namely: Daisy E.; Hattie; Lola E.; Frank T.; Earnest R.; Robert O.; and Mabel R.

Mr. Dienst is a public-spirited man, and has taken an active part in all township affairs. He has held the office of postmaster of Idenbro some time, and has served five years on the school board. He is a member of the Populist party, has been trustee of Labette township for one term, and served as justice of the peace for two years. Mr. Dienst is a Mason, and also belongs to the A. O. U. W. and Court of Honor. He is widely known in the county, and is an honest, upright man.

**M**ARTIN HAGGARD. Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, is composed mainly of representative men from all sections of the Union, who have sought homes in the Sunflower State. In every community there are men who have made farming a lifelong study, have finished their part in the arduous duties of daily life, and have fought the battle,—winning only after severe and exhausting effort. Such men and such characters as above described make up the farming element of Labette county.

Martin Haggard is one of the many prominent and progressive farmers of Montana township. He was born near Springfield, Illinois, in 1836. The early part of his life was spent on a farm, and later in life he followed the carpenter's trade, thus doubly fitting himself for the battle of life. He came to Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, in 1866, and purchased his present home,—the north half of the southeast quarter of section 30.

Using his own knowledge of the carpenter's trade, he built his house and improved his farm by his own labor. He is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association, Labette Lodge, No. 23.

Mr. Haggard's parents, Aaron and Sallie (Steal) Haggard, were both born in Clark county, Kentucky. After their marriage they removed to Sangamon county, Illinois, located near Springfield, and engaged in farming. They reared 10 children, of whom all but three are deceased. Martin (second) is the only one living in Kansas. Zerilda Ruldey (Hazlett) lives on the old farm near Springfield, and Sallie (Robinson) resides at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Martin Haggard married Catherine Tiger, who is now deceased; the issue of this union was one child, Ada May, deceased. He married, for his second wife, Sallie Smalley, who was born in Ohio.

**A**URELIUS BROOKS. Among the many influential farmers living in Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name appears at the opening of these lines. He is living in Walton township, in the northeast quarter of section 29. Mr. Brooks was born in Wayne county, Indiana, in 1846, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Vorhis) Brooks.

Jacob Brooks was born in Virginia in 1795, but spent most of his life engaged in farming in Indiana. He married Mary (Vorhis) Felter, who was born in Ohio, in 1802, and they had eight children, as follows: Mary; Jackson; Martha; Thomas; Irene; Adeline; Josephine; and Aurelius.

Aurelius Brooks lived on his father's farm

until he located in Kansas, in 1885. He had been a farmer in Indiana, and has always followed that occupation. Mr. Brooks bought his present farm, on coming to Kansas, and has lived there ever since. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and has been very successful. He is a careful, conscientious workman, and his farm presents a thrifty appearance.

Mr. Brooks married Mary E. Miller, who was born in Fayette county, Indiana, in 1851, and they have been blessed with six children, namely: Harry, who lives in Parsons, Kansas, and is employed by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company; Mary, who is a pupil at the State Normal School at Emporia, Kansas, and graduates with the class of 1902; Clarence; Charles; Bertha, deceased; and Irene, who is attending school. Mr. Brooks is a Democrat in politics, and takes an active interest in the political affairs of the township. He has served one term as township trustee, and has served on the school board for a period of eleven years. He is now treasurer of the school board. Mr. Brooks is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. He belongs to the A. O. U. W., Lodge No. 1, of Parsons. With his family, he attends the Methodist church.

**C**HARLES W. GUNTHER. This gentleman has been engaged in the horseshoeing and blacksmithing business for a number of years, and has been located at Parsons, Kansas. He was born in Morris county, New Jersey, in 1865, and is a son of John H. and Elizabeth (Smith) Gunther.

John H. Gunther, his father, was a native of Germany, and was a woodworker by

trade. He married Elizabeth Smith, who was born in New Jersey, and they reared: George; Smith J.; Charles W.; Harry; Lizzie; Margaret; Fred; and Edward.

Charles W. Gunther lived in New Jersey until he reached the age of nineteen years. There he learned the trade of a blacksmith and horseshoer. He left New Jersey in 1885, going west, and locating in Parsons, Kansas. He worked a year and a half for Mr. Tyler, who owned a blacksmith shop at that time. In 1887 Mr. Gunther bought out Mr. Tyler's business, and his shop is now on Washington avenue. He is a very good workman, having a thorough knowledge of his business, and employs competent men to assist him. Mr. Gunther bought his home, which is in the southeast quarter of section 23, Walton township, southwest of Parsons. He built a comfortable, seven-room house in 1895. Mr. Gunther was united in marriage with Alice Duval, who was born in Virginia, in 1870, and they have been blessed with three children, namely: Claude S.; Bessie M.; and Leslie A.

Mr. Gunther is a staunch member of the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in local politics. Both he and his wife are members of the Baptist church. They have a wide circle of friends, and are highly respected by all.



RS. HETTIE REED, a resident of Parsons, Kansas, and an extensive land owner in Labette county, was born on a farm in Illinois in 1863, and is a daughter of Albert G. and Lucy M. (Rice) Burnett.

Albert G. Burnett was born in New York in 1823. He followed the occupation of a farmer, merchant and millwright. He moved

to Kansas, and located six miles south of Parsons, where he bought a mill, which he operated until 1887. Mr. Burnett died in 1898. He was a Democrat in politics, and a very prominent man. He married Lucy M. Rice, who was born in New York in 1821, and died in 1895. They reared the following children, namely: Alvah; Hettie, the subject of this sketch; Mary; and James.

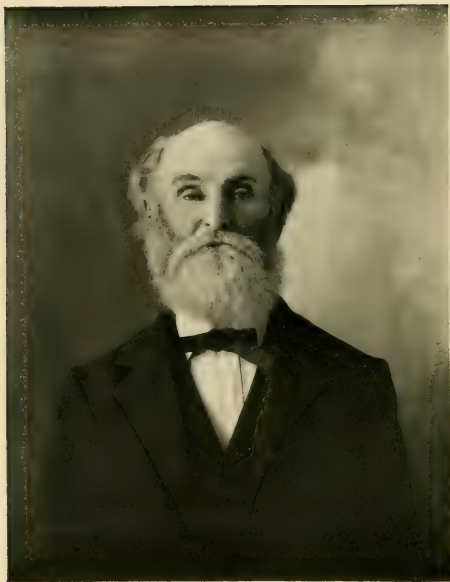
Hettie Burnett was very young when her parents moved to Knox county, Illinois, where she lived until her removal to Kansas. She was educated in Kansas, and grew to womanhood there. She was united in marriage with James Harvey Reed, January 19, 1882. James Harvey Reed was born in Ohio, and was reared on a farm. In 1865 he located in Labette county, Kansas, where he died in 1895. He was one of the most prominent farmers of the county, and his death was sincerely mourned by all. He was a man of pleasing personality, was charitable and kind to all, and a loyal and upright citizen. Mr. and Mrs. Reed were blessed with three children, namely: Albert D., James W. and Harvey R., who live in Denver, Colorado.

Mrs. Reed has 760 acres of farming land in Labette county. She also owns 120 acres of mineral land in Colorado, which produces gold, silver, copper and lead. Mrs. Reed rents her farms, and makes her home in Parsons, where she is universally esteemed.



HEODORE J. HOEPPNER, one of the leading farmers in Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, living on the southeast quarter of section 18, is a man who is respected by all who know him. He takes an active interest in those





WILLIAM HENRY STARKS.



movements which are for the good of the community in which he lives, and is a kind and charitable neighbor. Mr. Hoepfner was born in Saxony, Germany, in 1847, and is a son of August and Augusta (Wykoff) Hoepfner.

August Hoepfner was a weaver, and was born in Germany. In 1853 he came to America, where he lived the remainder of his life. He married Augusta Wykoff, who was also a native of Germany, and they were blessed with the following children: Augusta; Theodore J.; Betty, deceased; Fred; William; Frank; Mary; and three who died in infancy.

Theodore J. Hoepfner was but six years old when his parents moved to this country. They landed at New Orleans, where they lived for some time, and then moved to Jefferson county, Indiana. In 1864 Mr. Hoepfner enlisted in Company F, 31st Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served in the Army of the West. He fought in the battles of Nashville and Franklin, and was engaged in several skirmishes. In 1865 Mr. Hoepfner received an honorable discharge, and returned to Indiana. After staying at his home for a short time, he went to Illinois, where he was engaged in farming for three years. In 1878 Mr. Hoepfner removed to Labette county, Kansas, and located in Montana township. In 1880 he moved to his present farm in Neosho township, which is in the southeast quarter of section 18. He is engaged in general farming, and, as his early youth was spent in assisting on a farm, he has had much experience in that line, and is considered a very good farmer.

Mr. Hoepfner married Malinda Dyer, a daughter of Madison Dyer. Madison Dyer was born in Virginia, and settled in Kansas in 1872. His farm was located in sections 18 and 19, and he lived on it until his death. He married Evaline Welch, who was a native of

Ohio. Their children were: Louis, a farmer living in Neosho township; and Malinda, the wife of Mr. Hoepfner. The subject of this sketch and his wife had three children, all of whom are deceased. They were Augusta E., Emma L. and Theodore M. Mr. Hoepfner is a member of the Republican party. He and his wife belong to the Methodist church.




ILLIAM HENRY STARKS, a well known farmer of Labette county, Kansas, whose portrait is herewith shown, lives on section 28, Oswego township. He was born at Carterville, Vermont, in 1831. His father was Stephen A. Starks, a relative of General Starks, of Revolutionary fame.

Stephen A. Starks was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1788, and died in Sangamon county, Illinois, in 1836. In 1829, he moved to Carterville, Vermont, and in 1833 to Rutland, Ohio, where he lived for two years, and then moved to Sangamon county, Illinois, where he carried on farming and passed the remainder of his life. He was educated and taught school in Massachusetts where he met Abigail Rich, who afterward became his wife. She was born in Massachusetts, in 1788, and died in Sangamon county, Illinois, in 1864. This couple reared 10 children, all of whom are now dead, excepting the subject hereof; William Henry. The others were: Edwin; Fannie; Evaline; Emeline; Julius A.; John; Julia Ann; Sally; and Homer.

When William Henry Starks was but two years old, his father moved to Rutland, Ohio, where they lived until 1836, when they moved to Sangamon county, Illinois. There Mr. Starks received his primary education,

and in 1843 went to live with his brother in Kane county, Illinois. He remained with his brother for three years, and then was engaged in farming for himself until he reached the age of twenty-one years. In the spring of 1852, he joined a company going to California. After crossing the plains, they stopped at Downieville, Sierra county, California, and went to Eldorado county, California, in 1853. In 1864, Mr. Starks was a resident of Douglas county, Nevada, where he kept the hotel at Clark's station, for two years. In February, 1866, Mr. Starks left San Francisco by steamer for New York. He landed there in March, 1866, and went direct to Greene county, Indiana, where he bought a farm and lived until 1876, when he moved to Labette county, Kansas,—locating in Elm Grove township. In 1887, he moved to the Indian Territory, where he engaged in fancy stock raising and remained there twelve years. In 1899, he settled in Oswego township, in section 28, and since that time has resided there. He is largely interested in farming and stock raising, and is a very successful farmer.

Mr. Starks has been married four times. By his second wife he was the father of three children, namely: Thomas; Rosa; and John. He is a Democrat in politics, and religiously is a member of the Methodist church. The subject of this sketch is an honest, upright citizen, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of all the community.

EORGE W. FRAME, a highly successful farmer, lives in Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, in the east half of the southwest quarter of section 17. He is prominently identified with the progress and development of the county,

and has assisted in many public enterprises. Mr. Frame was born in Elkhart county, Indiana, in 1853, and is a son of John and Sarah (Richards) Frame.

John Frame was born in Pennsylvania in 1818, and was a carpenter by trade. He located in Labette county, Kansas, in 1866, where he bought the west half of the north-west quarter of section 20, Neosho township, and lived there until his death, which occurred in 1880. He married Sarah Richards, who was born in Pennsylvania, in 1820, and died in 1890. They reared the following children: Samuel, deceased; George W., the subject of this sketch; David, deceased; Frank and Mary (Gaddis).

George W. Frame was reared and schooled in his native state, and came to Labette county, Kansas, in 1867. He bought his present home in Neosho township, and there he carries on general farming; being a conscientious, thrifty man, he has been very successful. He has a thorough knowledge of agricultural matters, and his advice is often sought in such a connection.

Mr. Frame was united in marriage with Ida Stemple, who was born in Iowa, in 1858, and is a daughter of Jacob M. and Rebecca (Cochran) Stemple. Jacob M. Stemple was born in Virginia, and is a prominent farmer of Labette county. His wife was a native of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Frame had the following children, namely: Millard; Oliver; John; Carl; Eva; Earl; Jacob; and Charles and Harry, deceased. Mr. Frame is a Democrat in politics, and is now serving his third term as treasurer of Neosho township. He belongs to the A. O. U. W. lodge, No. 1, of Parsons. He is an honored and respected citizen, and has many friends in the county, who admire his honest, upright ways.

**H**IRAM COOK, an old settler of Labette county, and for many years a prominent farmer of this section, has attained the advanced age of eighty-two years. He is still hale and hearty, active and energetic, and manages the farm on which he has lived for the past twenty-three years. He resides in Neosho township, in section 28. Mr. Cook was born in Canada in 1820, within six miles of the United States boundary line. He is a son of Jacob and Anna (Wilson) Cook.

Jacob Cook and his wife were born in the United States and reared a family of 10 children, namely: Sallie; Crowell; Mary; Hiram; Willis; Julia; Millie; Wilson; Margaret; and Lyman. Jacob Cook was a farmer by occupation, and lived to an advanced age.

Hiram Cook located in Labette county, Kansas, in 1869. Prior to moving here, he had followed the occupation of a farmer, and has continued farming all his life. He bought his present home on first coming to Neosho township, and has been identified with the leading movements of Labette county. He is a man of honest, upright principles, is worthy of the highest respect, and his friends are many.

Mr. Cook was united in marriage with Martha (Knox) McMillan, who was born in West Virginia, in 1828. She is a descendant of a good old Southern family, her father having been James Knox, a native of Virginia. James Knox married Margaret Robinson, and seven children blessed their union, namely: Isaac; John; William; Joseph; Esther; Martha; and Bathsheba. Mr. Knox was a farmer by occupation. Mr. Cook had been previously married to Harriet Simons, of the state of New York, who died. Four of the children born of this union reached maturity, as follows: Ellis; Herman, deceased; Milton W.; and Asa.

Mr. Cook is a member of the Republican party. Religiously, he is a faithful member of the Christian church.



**W**ILLIAM McDOWNS, postmaster at Matthewson, Labette county, Kansas, and a merchant in that village, is one of the prominent men in the county. He has been a resident of Labette county since 1866, and has taken an active interest in its growth. Mr. McDow was born in Stark county, Ohio, in 1832, and is a son of Andrew and Nancy (Stewick) McDow. Andrew McDow was born in Scotland, and his wife was a native of Pennsylvania.

William McDow, the subject of this sketch, lived in Ohio until 1852, when he moved to Mason county, Illinois. He resided there fifteen years, and followed the occupation of a farmer during that time. In 1866 he moved to Labette county, where he bought a farm in Neosho township. He carried on farming on that land for twelve years, when he sold it and moved to the village of Matthewson, where he has since resided. There he is engaged in a large and lucrative business. He has won many customers by his honest, upright manner of dealing with all, and his genial, pleasant personality has gained for him quite as many friends.

Mr. McDow married Mary Schreck, who was born in Ohio in 1834. They have been blessed with seven children, as follows: J. W.; Josephine; Nancy Jane; Ira, deceased; Oscar O.; Lily; and J. P. Mr. McDow is postmaster of Matthewson, and also agent for the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis Railroad Company. In politics he is an ardent

Democrat, and has served as clerk of Neosho township one term. He was also treasurer of the township for ten years, and justice of the peace; he filled these offices with honor and credit. He also served on the school board for a number of years. He was formerly a member of the Methodist church.

**H**ENRY E. WILLIAMS, a well known and highly respected agriculturist of Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, living in the north half of the northeast quarter of section 27, was born in Greene county, Ohio, in 1847. He is a son of Thomas and Mary E. (Starbuck) Williams.

Thomas Williams was born in New Jersey, and he and his wife were the parents of the following children, namely: Mary; Jane; Henry E.; Maggie; Elizabeth; Anna; Charles; and John.

Henry E. Williams was reared and schooled in his native state, and in 1856 went to the western part of Illinois, where he lived until 1867. He then went to Missouri, where he lived one year, and, in 1868, to Lyon county, Kansas. Mr. Williams enlisted in Company M, 19th Reg., Kans. Vol. Cav., in 1868. He served under Col. Samuel J. Crawford, who resigned his office of governor of Kansas in order to accept the colonelcy. Mr. Williams saw service in the western part of Kansas, and at one time was obliged to live for fourteen days on unsalted buffalo meat. In 1869 he returned to Lyon county, where he remained one year, and then moved to Coffey county, Kansas. In 1872 he located in Labette county, and settled on his present farm, where he has since lived. Although busily engaged in farming, he takes an active interest in the affairs of the township in which he resides.

Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Melvina Sturm, who was born in Hardy county, West Virginia, in 1854. Her father, William M. Sturm, was born in Virginia in 1822, and was a farmer and school teacher; his wife was also a native of Virginia, and was born in 1833. Mr. and Mrs. Sturm reared five children: Mary; Nathaniel; Melvina; Susan; and Henry. The subject of this sketch and his wife are the parents of four children, namely: Thomas, a grain merchant in Winfield, Kansas; Rosetta; Walter, deceased; and Minnie May, deceased. Mr. Williams built his new frame house in 1897. He is very popular in the community, and is highly respected by all.

Mr. Williams votes an independent ticket, and has served as clerk of the township for four years; he was treasurer for two terms, and was on the school board for fourteen years. He belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association, and the A. O. U. W. Lodge, No. 70, of McCune. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church.

**W**ILLIAM J. MARSHALL. Among the leading agriculturists of Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of these lines. He lives in Neosho township, in the east half of section 26, and the southeast quarter of section 35. Mr. Marshall was born in Greene county, Missouri, in 1835, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Potter) Marshall.

John Marshall and his wife were natives of Tennessee. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Elias; Sarah Ann; William J.; James N.; Ruth K.; Martha E.; and John.

William J. Marshall was reared and

schooled in his native state, and lived there until 1861, when he moved to Kansas. He has followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. He bought his present farm in Neosho township in 1866. He also owns two other farms in Kansas. Mr. Marshall has a very thorough knowledge of farming matters, and has been unusually successful since locating in Kansas. He has always been a hard worker, and the neat and attractive appearance of his farms show careful management and great thrift.

Mr. Marshall was married to Elizabeth Stewart, who was born in Greene county, Missouri, in 1843. She is a daughter of J. Stewart, who was born in Tennessee,—he married a Miss Long, who was also a native of that state. Mr. Marshall and his wife have been the parents of several children, namely: Alice; Joshua C., a farmer; Leonard T.; Rosetta C., the wife of Howard Welch; Melvin A., a resident of Joplin, Missouri; and John E. and Daisy M., who are at home.

Mr. Marshall is a Republican in politics, and has served as township treasurer. He has been a member of the school board for twenty years, and helped to build the first school house in Neosho township. He belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian church.

**J**AMES M. COOPER, one of the prominent and highly respected agriculturists residing in Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, is a man of firm principles and strong character. He has been identified with the leading events of Labette county since his residence here, and is always ready to support any measures which

tend to promote the good of the community. Mr. Cooper was born in Greene county, Missouri, in 1856, and is a son of James F. and Martha J. (Dunn) Cooper.

James F. Cooper was born in Virginia in 1828, and his wife was born in Tennessee in 1826. They reared the following children, namely: George; William B.; Robert; James; Mary; Jennie; Kellie; and Ella. Mr. Cooper moved to Neosho township in 1866,—locating in section 34. He died in 1875, and his wife lived until 1900. August 11, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, 8th Reg., Mo. Cav., and was discharged July 20, 1865, at Little Rock, Arkansas.

James M. Cooper was reared and schooled in his native state, and moved with his parents to Labette county in 1866. He settled on his present farm, in sections 28 and 33, in 1895. His land is east of the Neosho River, in Neosho township. He has a thorough knowledge of agricultural matters, and has been highly successful. His success has been due entirely to his own efforts, as he has worked many years with untiring energy. He is a man of sound judgment, and has shown good management in the care of his farm.

Mr. Cooper married Vinia M. Nedarmire, who was born in Illinois, and is a daughter of G. and Mary (Fesler) Nedarmire. G. Nedarmire was born in Germany, and his wife was a native of Pennsylvania. Their children were: Vinia Anna; Gertrude; Dora, deceased; Ida; Grace; Viola; Ollie; Louisa; William; and Elsie. Mr. Cooper and his wife have been blessed with six children, namely: Effa; Hattie, deceased; Roy; Ralph; Alta; and Lloyd.

Mr. Cooper is a Populist in politics. He has served as road commissioner for seven years, and as constable for four years. Mr.



Cooper belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association, and to the M. W. of A., McCune Lodge, No. 2870. Mrs. Cooper is a member of the Methodist church.

---

**I**SAAC W. GALYEN, a descendant of one of the pioneer families of Labette county, Kansas, is one of the rising young farmers of this county. For many years his father was a leading citizen in Labette county, and the subject hereof is rapidly following in his father's footsteps. Mr. Galyen is a man of much intelligence, is thoroughly progressive, and keeps abreast of the times in all matters pertaining to farming, as well as to civic policies and measures. He was born in Benton county, Arkansas, in 1861, and is a son of J. W. Galyen.

J. W. Galyen was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1837, and was a farmer by occupation. He moved to Neosho township, Labette county, Kansas, in 1865, and settled in the south half of section 8. He lived there until within one month of his death. Lucretia Lovelace, his wife, was born in Missouri, and they reared one son, Isaac W., the subject of this sketch. In August, 1862, Mr. Galyen enlisted in the Confederate army in Company C, 11th Reg., Mo. Vol. Inf., and was honorably discharged in 1863, after serving about eighteen months. He died February 15, 1899.

Isaac W. Galyen moved with his parents when he was two years old from Arkansas to Greene county, Illinois, and two years later came to Kansas. He lived on the old Galyen farm, in Labette county, with his father, until 1897. He spent two years at Pea Ridge Academy. Mr. Galyen bought his present home in 1897, and since that time has built a fine, new,

nine-room house. His farm is in section 21, Neosho township. He is engaged in general farming, and has been highly successful. Mr. Galyen has won many friends in the county by his fair dealings with all men with whom he is associated, and he is highly respected by all in the community.

Mr. Galyen was united in marriage with Mary A. Lortz. This estimable lady's mother is a resident of Parsons, Kansas. The subject of this sketch and his wife have been the parents of five children, as follows: Alvis, deceased; George; Aden; Maud; and James.

In politics Mr. Galyen is a staunch Democrat, and has served as trustee of Neosho township one term, and as clerk of the township for two terms, filling both offices in an able manner. He is now a member of the school board. His father was also a member of that board for a number of years, and was trustee of Neosho township for three terms. Mr. Galyen is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association.

---

**J**AMES O. WRIGHT, a highly successful farmer living in the north half of the northeast quarter of section 16,

North township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Burlington, Iowa, and was born in 1856. He is a son of James and Elizabeth (Garrett) Wright. James Wright was born in Indiana, and his wife was born in Iowa. They were the parents of the following children, namely: Anna; Robert; James, the subject of this sketch; and George.

James O. Wright, whose name appears at the opening of these lines, was reared and schooled in his native state. In 1866 he went with his father, and the rest of the family, to Missouri, from which place they later moved



to Linn county, Kansas. After living there two years Mr. Wright moved to Neosho county, Kansas, and in the fall of 1881 he went to the Indian Territory, where he taught the Levering Baptist Mission school for ten years, in a town called Wetumka. In 1891 he returned to Kansas, and located in Labette county. He bought the north half of the northeast quarter of section 16, where he has successfully farmed ever since. He built his present home, which is a modern, substantial house, and his farm is kept in excellent condition.

Mr. Wright married Betty Keefer, of Missouri, in 1888. They have three children,—Carl, aged ten years; Florence, aged eight years; and Alice, six years of age. Mr. Wright is a man of strong character, and of honest and upright principles. He is a member of the Populist party. He takes an active interest in the affairs of his township, and served as clerk of North township for three years. He has also served as township trustee for four years.

**J**OHN P. HOFFMAN, a highly respected citizen and farmer living in section 3, North township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Germany. He was born in 1851, and is a son of Peter and Elizabeth (Rosch) Hoffman. They reared two sons,—John P.; and Crist, who now resides in Parsons, Kansas.

John P. Hoffman, the subject of this sketch, was reared and schooled in his native country, Germany, where he followed farming until he reached the age of twenty-one years. In 1872 he left Germany for this country; he landed in New York, and thence went to Fremont, Sandusky county, Ohio. He spent six years in that county, where he carried on farm-

ing. In March, 1872, Mr. Hoffman moved to Labette county, Kansas, and located in North township, in the east half of the northwest quarter of section 3; he has since bought the south half of the northwest quarter of section 2. He has a thorough knowledge of farming, and being a conscientious, untiring worker, he has made a home for himself and family, which, in its attractiveness, speaks well for its owner's thrift and energy.

Mr. Hoffman was united in marriage with Levina Schmidt, who was a native of Fremont, Sandusky county, Ohio. They have been the parents of seven children, namely: Anna M., who was a member of the class of 1897, in the Labette County High School, at Altamont, and is now a teacher; Albert A., who has the best record ever made in the Labette County High School, and is also teaching; Ida R.; Eloise; Otto S.; Bernedette; and Ralph.

Mr. Hoffman is independent in politics. He belongs to the Anti-Horse Thief Association. He is now clerk of North township, and has been a member of the school board. Mr. Hoffman is surrounded by a large circle of friends, who place great confidence in him. In religious belief the family are Catholics.

**E**DWARD D. CLARK, a prominent young business man of Laneville, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of the county, and his career has been watched with much interest by his numerous friends. He is a man of intelligence and good business ability, and, being an energetic worker, he has bright prospects ahead. Mr. Clark was born in the village of Montana, April 29, 1870, and is a son of T. J. and Mary (Davidson) Clark.

T. J. Clark was a native of Virginia, and was born in 1832. He was a carpenter by trade and an honest, upright citizen. He married Mary Davidson, who was also a native of Virginia, and they reared the following children: Nicholas W.; Edward, the subject of this sketch; George; Howard W.; Nita; Catherine J.; Ada; Clyde; Lucy; Bessie; and Pearl. Howard W. assists his brother in the grocery and grain business.

Edward D. Clark attended the public schools of Labette county, after which he went to Baxter Springs College, at Baxter Springs, Kansas. He also attended the State Normal School at Fort Scott, Kansas. He then went to Labette City, where he kept books for a period, but, being dissatisfied with this work, concluded to locate in Laneville, where he has resided ever since. Mr. Clark and his brother Howard are engaged in the grocery and grain business, and they have a large patronage. They are gradually increasing their stock, and the prospects are that they will be unusually successful in the future.

Mr. Clark is a stanch member of the Republican party, taking an active interest in the politics of the county. He is serving his second term as clerk of Neosho township, and filling the position in a creditable manner. He takes a deep interest in educational matters, and is at present a member of the school board. Mr. Clark is agent for the Adams Express Company at Laneville, and also for the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis Railroad Company. He is filling the position of postmaster in an able manner. Mr. Clark belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously he is liberal. Mr. Clark married Lulu Pyland, a native of Missouri, who was born in 1877. They have been blessed with one child,—Robert.

**J**ULIUS L. MORRISON, well known as one of the best farmers living in North township, Labette county, Kansas, in section 5, is a gentleman of high honor, firm principles and good business ability. He is actively interested in the progress of the county, and is always ready to assist in anything which tends to promote the good of the community. Mr. Morrison was born in Princeton, Illinois, in 1851, and is a son of Joseph and Ann (Thompson) Morrison.

Joseph Morrison, the father of Julius L., was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1806. He was a tanner by trade, and followed that occupation for many years. In 1849, during the California fever craze, he went to California, following the old Santa Fe trail, en route. He returned to Ohio in 1851, moved thence to Bureau county, Illinois, and located on a farm six miles from the town of Princeton. There he followed the occupation of a farmer for twenty-two years. He then sold his place, in 1877, and moved into the town of Princeton, where his death occurred in 1893. He married Ann Thompson, a native of Belmont county, Ohio, who was born in 1812, and died in 1880. They were the parents of the following children: Mary; Hugh; Grizzella; Francis; Sophia; Chalmers; Julius L., the subject of this sketch; Silas; and Maggie.

Julius L. Morrison was reared and educated in Illinois, and learned farming under his father. In 1879 he moved from Bureau county, Illinois, to Kansas, and settled in the south half of the northeast quarter of section 5, in North township, Labette county, Kansas, where he has since lived. He also bought the north half of the southeast quarter of section 5. He is a careful and painstaking worker, and being a good manager he has been very successful since coming to Kansas.





JAMES O. STOTTS.



MRS. MARGARET B. STOTTS.

Mr. Morrison was wedded to Anna McKinstry, in 1876. She was born in Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, in 1849, and is a daughter of W. P. E. and Sarah Jane (McBride) McKinstry. Mr. Morrison and his wife have reared the following children, namely: Ralph E., a student at Park College, and a member of the class of 1903; Edna B., a graduate of the Parsons High School, now engaged in teaching; Arthur L., deceased; and Roy R. Mr. Morrison is a member of the Republican party. He is also a member of the Anti-Horse-thief Association. Religiously, he belongs to the Presbyterian church.

**J**ONATHAN ANDREWS, a veteran of the Civil War, and a well known agriculturist of North township, Labette county, Kansas, is a man of honest and upright methods. He has been engaged in several different enterprises since entering upon a business career, and, having a sound judgment and good business principles, he has succeeded in a manner that would be a credit to any one. Mr. Andrews was born in Howard county, Missouri, in 1841, where he received his early mental training.

Mr. Andrews enlisted in Company A, 9th Reg., Mo. Vol. Cav., January 20, 1862, and was assigned to the Army of the West. He was in the battle of Kirksville, and in several skirmishes, and was honorably discharged in February, 1865. He then returned to his home in Missouri, where he finished his studies. In 1870 Mr. Andrews bought a general store, but conducted it only a short time, when he sold out and moved west. He bought the northeast quarter of section 9, where he has since resided, and carried on general farming. Sixteen years of this time Mr. Andrews has spent else-

where,—eight years in Colorado, looking after mining interests, four years in Joplin, Missouri, and four years in Helena, Kansas. He still has mining property in Colorado. In 1891 he went to Joplin, Missouri, where he was partner in the concern known as the City Brickyard. He held an interest in this until the spring of 1900, when he sold out his share. He has lately built a new home, a handsome frame house, and several new outbuildings. He now has one of the most attractive places in the county, and it is greatly admired by all.

Mr. Andrews married Estella Robbins, of Joplin, Missouri, December 31, 1893. She is a lady of many excellent qualities, and has numerous friends in the vicinity of her residence. In religion Mr. Andrews is a Baptist.

**J**AMES O. STOTTS, one of the most prominent citizens of Labette county, Kansas, has been a resident of Mound Valley township since 1870, and now resides in the southeast quarter of section 14, township 32, range 18. He is a veteran of the Civil War, and stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens. He was born in Morgan county, Indiana, May 22, 1829, and is a son of Robert C. and Helen (Laughlin) Stotts.


Robert C. Stotts and his wife were born in Virginia, of Scotch descent. They were married in Virginia, and went at an early period, to Indiana, where the husband was engaged in farming until his death, at the age of sixty years. His wife also died in Indiana. They were parents of seven children, as follows: Virginia, Margaret, Sarah, John L. and Robert C., all of whom are deceased; James O.; and Eliza (Smith), who resides in her native county in Indiana.

James O. Stotts was reared on a farm and

was engaged in farming until the Civil War, when he moved to Lewis county, Missouri, where he bought land and lived until 1870. He enlisted from Missouri in Company F, 21st Reg., Mo. Vol. Inf., and served in the 16th Army Corps. He was with General Sherman in one of his campaigns, but served mainly under Gen. A. J. Smith. He participated in seven of the most important engagements of the war, his first one being under General Prentiss, at Shiloh. His fighting was done mostly in Tennessee. He was mustered out at Eastport, Mississippi, in February, 1865, and went with the regiment to Cairo, Illinois, and thence to his home in Missouri. He followed farming in Missouri until 1870, when he moved to Labette county, Kansas, where he located on his present farm,—the southeast quarter of section 14, township 32, range 18. Two men, Rohrer and Honrath, had filed on the east half of section 14, and Mr. Stotts purchased their interests. He improved and cultivated the entire half section for several years, and then gave the northeast quarter to his son, who has since disposed of it. Aside from the breaking of a few acres, he has made all the improvements upon the place. There was no natural timber, even along the stream, and all the trees upon the property at the present time were set out by him. He set out a fine orchard of six acres, which is bearing well. The original box house was replaced by a comfortable eight-room residence in the fall of 1898, ample barns and outbuildings having been built a short time previously. Mr. Stotts has been very successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. In the early days he sometimes did his marketing at Ladore, but for many years past he has traded at Parsons.

Mr. Stotts was united in marriage, in In-

diana, to Margaret A. Bailey, who was born in that state, in 1831, and died in Labette county August 26, 1898. Nine children were born to bless this union, as follows: William, a carpenter of Mound Valley; Robert, who died in Indiana; Ellen, wife of E. T. Jamison, who resides in the northeast corner of Mound Valley township, and has four children,—Ida May, Alfred, William, and Jennie; Jennie (Beebe), of Harlan, Iowa; John, who died in Missouri; Alice (Smith), of Mound Valley township, who has six children: Eliza (Beggs), of Mound Valley; James Andrews, who died in Labette county; and Edwin M., who married Rose Wallis, a daughter of N. W. Wallis, an early settler of Labette county, and they have four children, Lelia May; Omah Mildred, James Wallis, and Helen Gladys. William, Robert and Ellen were born in Indiana. In politics, the subject of this sketch is a Republican. He is a member of Mound Valley Post, G. A. R. In religious views, he is a Methodist, and all of his family attend Hopewell church, in Labette township. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Stotts accompany this sketch.

 HARLES M. JOHNSON, a highly respected citizen of Parsons, Kansas, came to the city in 1883, with but little means and with only his musical talents to depend on. He began giving instruction on the piano, and established a store for the sale of musical instruments, and now has one of the largest concerns of that character in the state of Kansas.

Mr. Johnson was born in Posey county, Indiana, in August, 1861, and is a son of Rev. J. Wesley and Mary (O'Neil) Johnson. His father was born in Ohio and is now about six-



ty-five years of age. He was a minister of the M. E. church, and moved to the St. Louis conference when Charles M. was a small boy. He is a strong Republican in politics, and was chaplain of the state senate and of the penitentiary in Missouri for many years. He is now engaged in business with his sons, who are proprietors of the "DeLacey Remedies," in St. Louis. Five children were born to Rev. Mr. Johnson and his wife, namely: Charles M.; Crary; Fletcher; Ella; and Maude. Crary, of St. Louis, is in partnership with his brother Fletcher in the drug business. They began at Joplin, Missouri, then purchased a large drug store in Kansas City, which they sold in 1896, and went to St. Louis. They have two retail stores, and are wholesale handlers of the "DeLacey Remedies," of which they are the owners. They have a force of salesmen on the road. Ella is at home in St. Louis; and Maude married a Mr. Keiffer, of St. Louis, who is interested in the manufacture of soda fountains. The mother of Charles M. was born in South Carolina, and is now about sixty years of age.

Charles M. Johnson went with his parents to Missouri when four or five years old, and attended the public schools at the different places where his father lived. He obtained an excellent musical education, which was completed in St. Louis, where he graduated at the age of eighteen years. He at once began teaching at Independence, Kansas, where he formed a class, and shortly afterward moved to Butler, Missouri. There he remained until 1883, when he came to Parsons in the month of January. He began giving lessons on the piano and continued thus for some years. In November, 1894, he established his store at its present location, No. 1802 Forrest avenue. The city was then small and business competition was keen, but his success was assured from the

start, and the store took up so much of his time that he was obliged to give up teaching. He carries a complete stock of instruments of every kind, and many makes of pianos, preferring the Everett, which is his leader. His building is 125 by 25 feet in dimensions, but is not large enough to meet the requirements of his trade.

Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Anna T. Wyatt, who was born in Jacksonville, Illinois, in 1862, and is a daughter of F. M. Wyatt; her mother is dead. Her father was in the grocery business many years, and is now living in retirement at Butler, Missouri. She is one of three children, the others being: Alice (Lindsay), whose husband is a ranch owner and stockman near Fort Scott, Kansas; and J. O., of St. Louis, who has charge of the hardware of Crawford's large department store. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had one son who died. Fraternally, he is a Mason and Knight Templar, being knighted at Parsons; he is a member of the Shrine at Leavenworth. He is also a member of the Elks, and the A. O. U. W. He is a Republican in politics. Mrs. Johnson is a member of the Episcopal church, which he also attends. He has a fine residence at the corner of Eighteenth street and Corning avenue.



W. RABER, a harness-maker of Parsons, Kansas, stands well to the front among citizens and business men of prominence of that city, which has been his home for nearly a quarter of a century. Mr. Raber was born in 1845, in Stark county, Ohio, of which county his parents were also natives. His mother, whose maiden name was Catherine Kreighbaum, died in 1895, having

reached the age of sixty-five years. His father, Leonard Raber, has passed his seventy-sixth milestone, and is still living at the old homestead in Stark county, Ohio; he visited H. W. in Kansas several years ago. Eight children were born to him and his wife, of whom H. W. is the eldest, and the only one of the family who lives in the West, except one brother, Oliver P., who is a prominent druggist in Indiana; the rest of the children remained in their native county. Their ancestors originally lived in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Raber attended the common schools, and early commenced light farm work. When of suitable age, he became apprenticed, learned the painter's trade, and followed that occupation for a period of fifteen years. His last work in that line was done at Parsons, Kansas. April 4, 1881, he left his native state, and settled in Labette county, Kansas, where he farmed for four years, and during the two years following was engaged in the loan business. In the summer of 1889 he purchased the interest of J. C. McGinnis, now deceased, a pioneer business man of Parsons, Kansas, who at that time was the senior member of the firm of McGinnis & Calvert, harness-makers, then doing business at No. 1827 Johnson avenue. This business was continued at the old stand, under the firm name of Calvert & Raber, until 1895. The senior member of the firm then sold his interest and removed to Topeka, and Mr. Raber continued the business alone. He carries the finest and most complete stock of harness and leather goods in the city; in addition to which he has a full line of surreys, carriages, buggies, saddles, etc. His stock is estimated to be worth \$4,000, and occupies a building 20 by 100 feet in dimensions. The business established at this stand was among the first of its kind in Parsons. Mr. Raber employs

two expert harness-makers, and fills all orders for any style of harness, saddles, and ordinary leather goods. His energy, probity and shrewdness have not only won for him the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens, but have caused his business to prosper, and enabled him to purchase a fine residence at No. 1500 Forest avenue.

Before leaving his native state Mr. Raber was united in marriage with Sarah A. Shanafelt, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Shanafelt, prominent Ohioans. Mr. and Mrs. Raber have one daughter, Mrs. Gertrude R. Wiley, of Joplin, Missouri. Politically, Mr. Raber is a Democrat, and as an active, enterprising citizen takes a deep interest in everything tending toward the public welfare. Both he and Mrs. Raber are prominent in fraternal circles. The former is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America, while the latter affiliates with the Fraternal Aid, and is president of the Parlor Reading Circle, of Parsons. Both are members of the First Presbyterian church, and in them Rev. O. E. Hart finds willing assistants in any worthy cause.

---

**I**RVIN SMITH, one of the best known pharmacists and druggists of Parsons, Kansas, was born in Champaign county, Ohio, in 1846. His father died when he was a mere infant, and when he was six years old his mother also died. Being the youngest of 10 children, Irvin made his home principally with his brother, A. J. Smith, who removed to Wabash, Indiana, when Irvin was twelve years old. In June, 1865, Irvin was apprenticed to Harvey Murray, proprietor of a drug store and pharmacy at that place.





JONATHAN PEARSON.

Completing his apprenticeship in 1868, Mr. Smith came west to Neosho county, Kansas, and the following year purchased the drug business of Dr. Kennedy, at Erie, which he carried on successfully for two years. In 1871 he removed his stock to Parsons, which was then in its infancy, and located in a building near the corner of Johnson and Central avenues, just opposite his present location. A hotel then occupied the corner.

Two years later (1873) Mr. Smith retired from the drug business, temporarily, and spent several years in agricultural pursuits in Neosho county, where he owns a fine farm, and has one equally fine in Labette county. In 1876 he returned to Parsons, and worked as clerk in a drug store until 1882, when he again went into business for himself and has so continued up to the present time. He opened a drug store at the same old stand in Parsons, and removed in 1896 to the Kennedy Block. About a year later he moved to the Pierson Building, where he carried on business for three years. For the past year he has occupied his present building, at No. 1802 Johnson avenue. He employs two competent clerks as assistants, and presides himself over the pharmacist's desk, giving personal attention to the filling of prescriptions, etc. His store room is 20 by 60 feet in dimensions, and is well stocked with pure drugs, apothecaries' supplies and the thousand and one things found in any up-to-date drug store.

Mr. Smith has been twice married. His first marriage occurred in Erie, where he was united with C. B. Kennedy, a daughter of Dr. Kennedy. She died many years ago, leaving two children as a legacy to her husband. They are: Dr. Albert, of Parsons, and Nellie, a young lady still at home. Mr. Smith contracted a second marriage, being united with Mrs. Adelia Smith, nee Evans, a native of

Ohio. They have one daughter, Maude, and reside in a handsome residence in the First Ward.

In politics Mr. Smith is a Republican, but has never been prevailed upon to accept office. Contrary to the general rule, he is no member of any fraternal organization, nor has he allied himself with any church denomination; he entertains liberal views on religious subjects. Combining thrift and energy, he has amassed for himself a handsome competency, and is recognized as a man of good business methods. He is peculiarly fitted for his present occupation, and faithfully executes the wishes of a large number of patrons. Two of his brothers also came west, but died in Kansas a short time afterward.

♦ ♦ ♦

**J**ONATHAN PEARSON. This gentleman, whose portrait is herewith presented, was for a number of years a prominent farmer of Elm Grove township, Labette county, Kansas; but since 1900 he has made his home in Edna. He was born in Canton, Stark county, Ohio, in 1833, and is a son of J. and Sarah (Kountz) Pearson.

J. Pearson was born in Pennsylvania, and was a tanner by trade. He married Sarah Kountz, who was also a native of Pennsylvania. They reared two children: Jonathan; and Mary J., who married Mr. Shepherd, and now lives in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas.

When Mr. Pearson was but six years old, his parents moved to Jackson county, Indiana, and there he received his early mental training. He enlisted in 1864, in Company K, 31st Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served until the close

of the war. He took part in the battles of Franklin, Tennessee, and Huntsville and Asheville, North Carolina. He followed the trade of a bricklayer for thirteen years, and in 1870 removed to Labette county, Kansas, where he has since resided. From a Mr. Scott, he bought the southeast quarter of section 24, township 34, range 18, in Howard township, for \$200. He entered this claim at Independence, Kansas, and began making extensive improvements. He successfully carried on general farming there until 1900, when he rented the farm to J. W. Pearson, his son, and decided to locate in the city of Edna. He built his present home in that town, in 1900, and has since resided there. He is well and favorably known, and is looked upon by all as a man worthy of implicit confidence.

Mr. Pearson married Ruth A. Holten, who was born in North Vernon, Indiana, in 1839. This union resulted in the birth of eight children, as follows: J. W.; Alice; Sadie; Ellsworth; Joseph; Mollie and William, deceased; and Nellie. Mr. Pearson is independent, in politics. He was township trustee of Howard township for two years. He is a member of the G. A. R. The family belong to the Methodist church. Mr. Pearson joined the church when twenty-four years of age, and has been on the church board ever since he settled in Kansas. He has held the office of trustee for nearly thirty years.

**D**R. GEORGE W. GABRIEL, a gentleman who has been called upon to fill many offices of public trust, is at the present time representing his district in the state senate of Kansas. He is a physician by profession, and has been en-

gaged in practice in the city of Parsons since 1870.

Dr. Gabriel was born in Athens, Ohio, in November, 1843, and is a son of Moses and Mary (Johnson) Gabriel. He is of French descent, his great-grandfather having served in the French army during the revolution in that country,—he came to this country, settled in Virginia, and later moved to Ohio, where he died when George W. was very young. The grandfather of Dr. Gabriel settled on government land in Ohio in 1798, and lived there the remainder of his life. Moses Gabriel, the father, died in 1879. He married Mary Johnson, who was born in Ireland, and is still living on the old homestead in Ohio, having passed the eighty-seventh anniversary of her birth in October, 1900. Her father came to America in 1820 because of participation in the Irish rebellion, having been at one time an officer in the British army. Moses Gabriel and his wife had six children, as follows: Elias, who served in the 24th Reg., Iowa Vol. Inf., during the Civil war, came to Neosho county, Kansas, with Dr. Gabriel, and is now a farmer near Erie; George W.; Susan (Wells), whose husband is a farmer and has resided near Butler, Missouri, for the past twenty-five years; Christina (Dixon), of Athens, Ohio; Elmer, who died in Ohio in 1898; and Emmett, who died in Ohio in 1888, having been a student in the University of Ohio.

Dr. George W. Gabriel was reared and educated in Ohio, where he attended the State University for three years. He then enlisted in Company I, 52d Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and later in the 75th and 116th Ohio regiments. He was in the forage department mainly, under General Crook and General Franklin, and after three years service was mustered out in



the winter of 1863-1864. He came to Kansas in the spring of 1864, and at Topeka enlisted for six months in Company D, 17th Reg., Kans. Vol. Inf., having charge of teams and foraging. He received his discharge at Fort Leavenworth, November 17, 1864, after the last raid of Price, and then went to Topeka, where he remained until September, 1865. He then returned to Ohio and attended the Starling Medical College two years, and in the fall of 1867 was made assistant surgeon of the Ohio penitentiary. In the fall of 1868, he came to Ladore, Labette county, Kansas, and moved; in 1870, to Parsons, then composed mainly of tents. Besides himself there were but two practicing physicians there at that time, Dr. Keely and Dr. Hutchison. His first office was on Forrest avenue, in the building owned by Hayes & Pierson. He practiced alone, at first, and then, in partnership with Dr. Kennedy, in 1872 and 1873. He afterward formed a partnership with Dr. Tindler, which continued from 1884 to 1893. He is engaged in general practice, alone, but is located in the same suite with O. E. Peak, D. D. S. He enjoys a fair share of the patronage of the community, and is held in the highest esteem by the citizens.

Dr. Gabriel was first married to Mrs. Elizabeth Hallowell, *nee* Hager, who died in 1891, having given birth to four children, as follows: Harry, a train dispatcher at Fort Scott, Kansas, for the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis Railroad; Hager, who died at the age of two years; Mary, a graduate of the schools of Clinton, Missouri, who is now in New Jersey; and one who died in infancy. The Doctor formed a second marital union, Mrs. Mary E. Brown, *nee* Cassidy, a native of Indiana, becoming his wife. He is a member of the Southeastern Kansas Medical As-

sociation; is a Knight Templar; a Shriner; and also a member of the A. O. U. W.; B. P. O. E.; and Modern Woodmen of America. His wife is a member of the Eastern Star lodge. His former wife was associate grand matron at the time of her death. Politically, he has always been a Democrat, and has served as mayor of Parsons about ten years in all, his first term having commenced in 1874, and his last term having expired in 1888. He has also served as alderman. He was a member of the Kansas house of representatives three terms, beginning in 1876; his last term expired in the fall of 1900. In the last named year he was elected to the Kansas Senate, from Labette county, and is ably filling the office. He owns and occupies a handsome home in Parsons.

**N**ICHOLAS ANDERSON, an expert plasterer and stone mason, of Parsons, Kansas, is a native of Sweden, where his birth occurred July 21, 1842. He is a son of Andrus Pierson and Bangta (Klemetson) Anderson, who remained in their native country, and reared four sons. Pier, the eldest son, emigrated to America four years before Nicholas came, settled in Galesburg, Illinois, and died six months after his arrival in this country. He advised his brothers not to seek a home in America. Jans, the second, was a farmer by occupation, and died in Germany, where he then lived in 1898. Nels is a widower, and resides on the old home farm in Sweden, which he bought and paid for. He and Nicholas are the only surviving members of the family, the parents having passed away.

Nicholas Anderson was reared on his father's farm in Sweden, and according to custom was confirmed in the state church, at

the age of fifteen years. When he attained the age of twenty-one years, his father bribed a physician to pronounce him physically disabled from entering the regular army, and in that way several years of valuable time were saved, as he was not obliged to become a soldier. Two years later he left his native place to shift for himself, and some time afterward drifted into Germany, where he spent four years at farm work. In 1872 he immigrated to America, in company with a cousin, who is deceased. Being acquainted with a butcher who was located in Parsons, Kansas, he naturally sought the same location,—intending to take up a claim.

Mr. Anderson worked on the railroad for about a year and a half, and with that exception he has made his home in Parsons, having visited his native country twice. After working some time as a helper to brick masons, he decided to become a mason, and accordingly learned the trade. He then began business for himself, by building cisterns, walls, etc., and of late years has devoted much time to stone cutting and contracting. He has been a busy, energetic man, and having a good trade has prospered accordingly. He is now quite an extensive property owner, having several fine tracts of land near Parsons, which he leases, and also a tract of land in the western part of the town,—known as Anderson's Addition. Mr. Anderson has sold several building lots from this tract at excellent figures. He also owns a comfortable residence at No. 903 Lincoln avenue.

In 1881 Mr. Anderson was united in marriage with Ingrede Nelson, a native of Sweden, who located in Parsons in 1880. The marriage took place in Carthage, Missouri. Six children blessed their union. The first three died in infancy. Elmer, who is nineteen years

old, is attending the business college at Parsons. Minnie Elizabeth, the only daughter, has attained the age of fifteen years, and is a student; Oscar, the youngest of the family, is now twelve years old.

In his religious views, Mr. Anderson favors the United Brethren church, of which he was formerly a class-leader. His wife shows a decided preference for the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Anderson is a Republican, in politics, but his business demands nearly all his attention, and he has never sought political preferment save once, when he was a candidate for the office of city councilman. Like all good citizens, he has the welfare of the city at heart, and uses his influence for the good of the community. He has assisted materially in building up the city, having erected several fine tenement houses in the west side of town. He lives in that part of the city, on Dirr avenue, near the railroad shops, until 1895, when he removed to his present residence.

---

**R**OBERT H. MUZZY. This gentleman is an extensive hardware dealer both in Kansas and the Indian Territory. He is a resident of Edna, Kansas, where he conducts a prosperous business. Mr. Muzzy was born in Jefferson county, New York, in 1862, and is a son of J. B. and Henrietta (Coon) Muzzy.

J. B. Muzzy was born in Jefferson county, New York, and still resides in Adams, that county, aged sixty-eight years. He married Henrietta Coon, who was also a native of Jefferson county, and is deceased. They were the parents of four children, as follows: Robert H.; Byron J., a farmer in New York; John B., of Watertown, New York, who is an





MR. AND MRS. J. W. MORAIN.

attorney in the office of the county clerk; and Henrietta (Dare), of Jefferson county, New York.

R. H. Muzzy was reared and educated in New York, where he took an academic course at Union Academy, Belleville, New York. When he was twenty-four years old, he removed to Cherryvale, Labette county, Kansas, where he was engaged in the hardware business for a year and a half. In 1886, he located in Edna, where he erected his present store building, which is 68 by 40 feet in dimensions, including the shop in the rear. He also has a storeroom in the rear which is 24 by 50 feet in dimensions. Mr. Muzzy carries a large stock of shelf and heavy hardware, harness, tinware, and sewing machines, and employs two or more men. For ten years he did his own tin work. Mr. Muzzy also has a branch store at Centrahia, Indian Territory, which he established in March, 1899, and placed in charge of R. F. Allen. He handles a full line of hardware, harness, implements, furniture and undertaking supplies. He is also equal partner in the firm of W. T. Berentz & Muzzy, of Bartlesville, Indian Territory, carrying a similar stock, including furniture and undertaking supplies. Mr. Muzzy has been very prosperous, and is one of the most successful business men in Labette county. A man of splendid business and executive ability, it is not surprising that he has reached the goal of success, and as this success has been all of his own earning, he deserves much credit. Mr. Muzzy has a very comfortable home in Edna.

Mr. Muzzy was married, in New York, to A. Etta Barney, and they have one daughter, Esther. He is a Republican in politics, and has served as a councilman, and as treasurer of Elm Grove township. Fraternally, Mr.

Muzzy is a member of the M. W. of A. lodge, of Edna. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Muzzy is a very popular man in Edna, where he and his wife assist in all social entertainments, and are well known.



W. MORAIN, a highly respected farmer living in section 29, township 32, range 18, in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1836. He is a son of Joseph and Mary (Murphy) Morain.

Joseph Morain went with his parents from Maryland to Ohio, where he lived for a number of years. When J. W. was but one year old, Mr. Morain moved to Douglas county, Illinois, where, eight years later, his death occurred. His wife then returned to Ohio, and subsequently went back to Illinois, where she died, in March, 1892. They reared five children: J. W.; and James, Minerva, Sarah and Thomas, deceased.

J. W. Morain lived nine years in Illinois, and then returned with his mother to Ohio. When he reached the age of twenty-one years, he went back to Illinois. In 1868, he went to Missouri. In 1871, Mr. Morain drove from Jasper county, Missouri, to Labette county, Kansas, and in July of that year set the stakes on his present farm in Mound Valley township. This farm had been abandoned by a young man, who had placed four logs there, as a foundation for a house. Not a particle of the land was broken, and there was no timber on it. In the fall of 1871, Mr. Morain built a claim house, 10 by 12 feet, in size. He was alone on the claim at this time, and one of his horses got away. Mr. Morain went back to

Missouri, on foot, and tried to find the animal. He was unsuccessful, and returned to Labette county, with a friend. Later, he traded the remaining horse for a yoke of cattle. He returned to Missouri during the winter of 1871-1872, and the following spring took his family, and once more settled on this farm. His claim house still stands, but in 1884 Mr. Morain completed an eight-room house, which is 24 feet square. He has 500 apple trees and two miles of hedge. He carries on diversified farming, and is very successful. Mr. Morain favors Hereford cattle, and Poland-China hogs. He has made many valuable improvements on his farm, and it presents a very attractive appearance.

Mr. Morain was united in marriage with Hannah Barnes, in De Witt county, Illinois, March 26, 1861. She was born in Marion county, Illinois, where her father was engaged in manufacturing woolens. Mrs. Morain has a half brother living in Illinois, and a half sister, who lives in Linn county, Kansas. Nine children have resulted from her union with Mr. Morain, namely: Charles, who was born in Illinois, married Emma Allmon, and lives near his father's home; Eva, who died in Illinois; Emma, who was a native of Illinois; Albert, deceased; Stanley, who lives in Labette county, and married Miss Britegham; Ora, deceased; Charity, deceased; Leland, who lives in Iowa; Azalia, who is married, lives at home, and has one child, Leila R.; and Floyd, who is also at home.

Mr. Morain has always been a member of the Republican party, and has taken an active interest in local politics. He served as clerk of the school board, in District No. 34, in 1874, and was township treasurer for two years. He attends the Methodist church at Excelsior, where he acts as church trustee.

Mr. Morain is a man of honest principles, and is highly esteemed by all who know him. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Morain accompany this sketch, being shown on a preceding page.



G. EWING, familiarly known as Glenn Ewing, a popular passenger engineer on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, was born in Kentucky, March 19, 1853, and is a son of William and Sarah (Glenn) Ewing, who lived a quiet rural life at their Kentucky home, being separated by death only three years. The father died in 1893, and was followed by the mother in 1896.

M. G. Ewing was reared to farm life, and followed that line of employment until he engaged in railroading. He went from his old home to Winfield, Henry county, Iowa, in March, 1873, and applied himself actively to farm work. There he met and married Alice Kepper, a native of Ohio. They have one daughter, Lelia, at home, pursuing a course in music.


In April, 1877, Mr. Ewing moved from Henry county, Iowa, to Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, and at once went to the farm of his uncle. He applied himself assiduously to farm duties, and made many important improvements, which greatly enhanced the value of the property. In 1879, he left the farm and entered the car department of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway. He was transferred to the locomotive department in 1880, and afterward became a fireman on the road, first for Engineer William Dwyer in the freight service on the Cherokee and Neosho divisions.

In 1882, Mr. Ewing was promoted to be



a freight engineer, and further advanced to the passenger service in March, 1896, when he was given a regular passenger run from Parsons to Kansas City. Mr. Ewing has gone through the different stages of railroad life, has overcome all obstacles to success, and now has a pleasant run, and takes pleasure in the distinction of being a very fortunate and successful engineer.

Mr. Ewing has purchased a fine home at No. 1706 Belmont avenue. In his political views, he favors the Republican party, although reared as a Democrat. Socially, he affiliates with the following fraternal orders: B. of L. E., Division No. 179; A. F. & A. M., of Parsons; Select Knights; Knights and Ladies of Security; and B. P. O. E. Mrs. Ewing is a member of the Fraternal Aid Society, and the auxiliary to the B. of L. E. In their religious views, they incline toward Presbyterian doctrines.

 OHN S. HILEMAN, a prominent real-estate dealer of Edna, Labette county, Kansas, was born in 1845, in Ohio, and is a son of Daniel and Mary (Huff) Hileman.

Daniel Hileman was born in Pennsylvania, of Pennsylvania-Dutch stock, and was married to Mary Huff in 1837. She was also a native of Pennsylvania. They moved to Ohio in 1837, and in 1860 Mr. Hileman and his brother Michael drove in covered wagons to Andrew county, Missouri, where Mrs. Hileman died in 1881, aged sixty-eight years. After her death, Mr. Hileman moved to Labette county, Kansas, in 1882, and resided on a farm near Oswego, where he died in 1899, aged eighty-five years. He was intensely

loyal and enthusiastic in his convictions, and was one of the delegates from Ohio to the convention at Baltimore which nominated James K. Polk for the presidency. He joined the Republican party in 1856,—the passage of the fugitive slave law and the Dred Scott decision having caused him to leave the Democratic party. He and his wife reared seven children, as follows: James E.; Susanna E.; Rebecca; John S.; M. D.; Minerva; and D. O. James E. was a member of Company I, 16th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., who fell doubly wounded, December 29, 1862, in front of Vicksburg, and died in a rebel prison at Jackson, Mississippi. Susanna E. (Crocket) is a widow, who lives at Lenora, Norton county, Kansas. Rebecca died at the age of eighteen years, in Ohio. M. D. is a farmer near Baxter Springs, Kansas. Minerva died in Missouri, at the age of twelve years. D. O. lives on the old homestead near Oswego. Six of the children came to Andrew county, Missouri.

John S. Hileman attended the schools of his native state, Ohio, until he reached the age of fifteen years, when his father moved to Missouri, where there were no public schools. When he was seventeen years old, he enlisted, in August, 1862, in Company C, 35th Reg., Mo. Vol. Inf., and served until Richmond fell. He served in the 16th Army Corps, under General Hurlbert, and he was not wounded, although his health became impaired. He was mustered out in May, 1865, at St. Louis, where he donned citizen's clothes and returned home to Andrew county, Missouri, where he remained for some time on the old homestead on the farm. He reviewed his studies in the public schools and attended Stewartville Academy one year, after which he taught school some years in Missouri. After his marriage,

in 1868, he farmed until 1883, when he removed to Labette county, Kansas, and bought a farm near the state line. He also bought 200 head of cattle and then followed farming and stock raising until 1896, when he bought property in Edna, moved there and engaged alone in the real-estate business. In December, 1900, he sold his farm. His son was engaged in business with him until the spring of 1900, under the firm name of J. S. Hileman & Son, and then accepted a position as abstractor and bookkeeper with H. B. Henderson, of Columbus, Kansas. Mr. Hileman is a thorough business man, has honest, upright principles, and deals fairly with all. He has one of the finest homes in Edna, situated on the corner of Delaware and Myrtle streets.

Mr. Hileman married Mary Briggs, and they have three children, namely: Gertrude (Todd), of Oswego, and Lora (Lower), of Abilene, Kansas, both of whom were married December 27, 1899; and Allen Dale, who attended the normal school at Emporia for one year, the Southwest Kansas College at Winfield for two years, and later the Commercial college at Quincy, Illinois,—he is a fine young business man, and has a splendid business training. Mr. Hileman has always been a Republican, and was nominated without his asking and elected to the Kansas legislature, in 1888, for a two years term. He has been commander of Knoxville Post, No. 458, G. A. R., for a number of years, and takes great pleasure in attending state and national encampments and G. A. R. reunions; he looks upon them as the best meetings on earth. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. of A. lodges. He belongs to the Sons and Daughters of Justice, and the Knights and Ladies of Security, and is one of the promoters of the new order, the Home Build-

ers' Union, in which he is supreme master builder. He and his family attend the Methodist church.

**J** I. TANNER, who formerly represented Labette county, Kansas, in the legislature, and is one of the highly respected farmers living in Osage township, was born in 1855, in Green county, Missouri. He is a son of Elias and Eliza Tanner, who are deceased. He is one of eight children, namely: Marion; Martha, who married Samuel Sliger, and now lives in Kansas City, Missouri; William; David; J. S.; Samuel; Stewart; and Louisa.

When his mother died, J. I. Tanner was very young. In 1870 he came to Labette county, where he was reared at the home of his brother-in-law, Samuel Sliger, who had taken a claim in section 11, township 32, range 17, in Osage township. Mr. Sliger died in 1877. There J. I. Tanner made his home until he reached his majority. His first work was on the farm in Osage township. In 1882 Mr. Tanner purchased his present farm, in the southeast quarter of section 2, township 32, range 17, in Osage township, which has since been his home. The claim was first conveyed to Mr. Sinclair, an early settler, who afterward removed to Washington. Mr. Tanner carries on diversified farming and stock raising, and has a thorough knowledge of agricultural matters. He is a self made man, of good business ability.

Mr. Tanner was united in marriage with Nellie Wheelock, who was born in Illinois, in 1862. They have five children, namely: Ethel; Mabel; William; James; and Homer. Politically, Mr. Tanner is a Democrat, and

was elected representative of the county in 1891, serving two years. He has not accepted any nominations since that time. Fraternally, he is a member of the organization of the Sons and Daughters of Justice at Cherryvale. In religious views, he is liberal.



**CHARLES J. DARLING**, a prominent resident of Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, came to this county in 1871, a poor man, and by years of careful saving and industry has laid by a handsome competency, and is now the owner of between 600 and 700 acres of excellent farm land. He was born August 22, 1841, in Jackson county, Ohio, and is a son of James H. Darling.


James H. Darling was born in Virginia, as was also his wife, both being of English descent. They were the parents of three daughters and five sons, as follows: P. B., who came to Labette county in 1869, and resides south of the home of Charles J.; Tacy E. (Dove), who died in Illinois; Virginia C. (Martin), of Jackson county, Ohio; Charles J.; Malinda S. (Eubanks), of Jackson county, Ohio; Joseph R., who resides west of Cherryvale, in Montgomery county, Kansas; W. L., who lives in Jackson county, Ohio; and Henry C., who also lives in Ohio. In 1882, James H. Darling was persuaded by his son, Charles J., to come and reside with him in Labette county, and here he died in 1895, at the age of eighty-two years, his wife having died here in 1892. He was a soldier in the Civil war, and served with the 73d Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., for two years, when he was discharged because of rheumatism.

Charles J. Darling attended the common

schools of Ohio, and enlisted from there in Company F, 173d Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., in 1864, receiving an honorable discharge at Nashville, Tennessee, in 1865. He then returned to Ohio, and in the fall of 1867 removed to Illinois. He came to Labette county, Kansas, March 31, 1871, and in April of that year purchased his home farm, the southwest quarter of section 31, township 31, range 18. Mr. Adams, the gentleman of whom he purchased, had placed some logs as a foundation, and Mr. Darling erected a log house in the rear of the site of his present house. The first frame house was moved upon the place in 1876, and the crude stable, characteristic of early days, was replaced by good substantial barns. His wife, who was in poor health upon their arrival in this county, died, and was buried on April 22, 1871. Mr. Darling was a very poor man at the time, owning only two teams, and was obliged to borrow money to defray the funeral expenses. He now owns between 600 and 700 acres of land, including the south half of section 36, township 31, range 17; the southwest quarter of section 31, township 31, range 18; 53 acres in section 7, township 32, range 18, for which he traded a span of mules; and 120 acres east of his home place in section 32. He broke hedge rows in the spring of 1871, and did all his early plowing. He is now raising two boys and a girl, who are Jonathan Rogers' children. At all times he has two men employed in work on the farm, and at intervals has many more than this number. Of late years, he has used mules almost exclusively in farm work, and has been engaged in raising mules, having imported a fine Spanish jack. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and favors Red Polled Angus cattle and Poland-China hogs. He has an excellent water sup-

ply, as Gig Hill Creek runs through two of his farms.

Charles J. Darling was first united in marriage, in Ohio, with Jane Meeker, who was born in 1837 and died in 1871, leaving three children: James T.; Ruth Jane; and William C. James T., who married Anna Bussert, lives near LaFountaine, Kansas, and has three children, Charles K., Cleo, and Clair. Ruth Jane (Wagner), of Montgomery county, Kansas, has five children: Roy, Daisy, Charles, Lulu, and Maynard. William C. married Nellie Swart, a daughter of J. B. Swart, a well known politician of this county. The second matrimonial alliance of Mr. Darling was with Martha A. Cassill, who was born in Ohio, in 1849, and is a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (St. Clair) Cassill. She is one of 10 children, as follows: Mary J. (Newton), of Rich Hill, Missouri; Martha A.; Louis, of Missouri; Sarah (Aldrich), of Platte county, Kansas; Nancy (Gilbert), of Oklahoma; Josie; O. E., who lives in Illinois; George, an artist of Boston, Massachusetts; and two who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Darling have two children: Alonzo A. and Charles J. Jr., both of whom are engaged in the lumber business at Grand Falls, Washington. In politics Mr. Darling is really a Republican, although a bi-metallist. He served as township treasurer for several terms. Fraternally, he is a member of the A. O. U. W., of Cherryvale; the Sons and Daughters of Justice; Modern Woodmen of America; and was formerly a member of the G. A. R., and of the Anti-Horse-thief Association. His wife is a member of the Modern Tontines. Religiously, he is a Methodist and assisted in erecting the church, where he worships. His postoffice is Cherryvale, but he is on one of the three free rural-delivery mail routes.

HARLES F. GEHRING, the competent and well informed scale inspector of the entire Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, has been a resident of Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, since October, 1891, and is one of the leading citizens of that flourishing city. Mr. Gehring, as his name indicates, is of German descent. He is a son of John and Rosanna (Loechner) Gehring, both of whom were born in Germany.

John Gehring followed the occupation of a carpenter for many years, and was a fine mechanic. He accompanied relatives to America when about nine years old, the lady that became his wife having crossed the ocean when about the same age. Their marriage took place in the state of Ohio. The beloved mother has been deceased for many years, but the father still survives and at the present time is a resident of Elkhart county, Indiana. Nine children were born to this worthy couple, two of whom, both daughters, died in infancy. The others are, William, deceased, who during his life was a prosperous farmer in Indiana; George M. a mechanic, now residing at Bartlesville, Indian Territory; Charles F., who is a twin brother of Emma (Pearman), of Niles, Michigan; Paulina (Lenocker), of Dexter, Iowa; Ida (Huffman), who resides on a farm in Elkhart county, Indiana; and Frank, a mechanic, of Millersburg, Indiana.

Charles F. Gehring was born in Holmes county, Ohio, in 1852, but was reared principally in Indiana, where he attended the common schools until he attained the age of fifteen years. At that early age he began to make his own way in the world, working first on a farm in Indiana. When about twenty years old he began carpenter and scale work, in the employ of J. B. Voris, an agricultural implement dealer at Monroe, Jasper county, Iowa.

In 1878 Mr. Gehring went to Sherman, Texas, and worked in the construction department of a railroad there, under A. B. Goodrich, station agent at that place. Later he traveled with that gentleman for about two years, building and setting up the Fairbank Company's scales. He subsequently served on the police force at Sherman, Texas, for some time, and later was a brakeman for eighteen months, on the Texas & Pacific Railway. For several years thereafter he was engaged in rail-roading, and worked in the capacity of foreman of a bridge gang on the same system. This occupied his attention until he entered the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, at Parsons, in 1891.

In 1895 Mr. Gehring succeeded his father-in-law, Cyrus Mehring, as scale inspector. He has charge of inspecting, testing, and repairing all scales over the entire Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway system, which necessitates much travel. His position is one of much importance, but, as he has learned the business from the very beginning, he has no difficulty in attending to his various duties. The task has become a "profession" to him, as he is quite an expert in his line, and gives all work his personal attention.

In 1882 Mr. Gehring was united in marriage with Kate Mehring, an accomplished daughter of Cyrus and Susan (Hilderbrand) Mehring. Mrs. Gehring was born in Pennsylvania, in 1862, and is the eldest of a family of six children, two of whom died in infancy. One sister, Lizzie, is also deceased. Two sisters are still living; they are: Annie (Scott), wife of a railroad employee at Parsons; and Etta (Parker), of the same city. Mrs. Gehring remained in her native state until she was about nine years old, when her parents removed to Marion county, Illinois, where she at-

tended school until she was seventeen years old, the family removing at that time to Sherman, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Gehring have a family of eight bright, healthy children, all of whom are still around the home fireside. The eldest one works in the mill. With the exception of the youngest, the others are students. Their names are Frank, Claude, Ira, Carrie, Fred, Edith and Ethel, twins, and Ruth. Mrs. Gehring and her eldest son are devout members of the Christian church, which the others also attend. They reside in a comfortable residence at No. 2511 Belmont avenue, the lot having a frontage of 75 feet.

In his political preferences, our subject uses all his influence toward furthering the interests of the Democratic party, and votes a straight ticket each and every time. His religious views are liberal, and he has not allied himself with any denomination. He is a valued member of Lodge No. 1, A. O. U. W., of Parsons. He is known as a good citizen, is thoroughly progressive and wide awake, and can be depended upon to keep abreast of the times. In his successful life we have an example of what may be accomplished by steady and persistent effort, coupled with a determination to succeed.

**H**ENRY SCHMITZ was born in Germany in 1830, and came to America in 1850, locating in Dana county, Wisconsin, where he farmed. There he met Margaret Wahl, a native of Germany, whose hand he sought and won in marriage. Miss Wahl left her German home and came to America in 1852.

Mr. and Mrs. Schmitz sought a home in


the West, coming to Neosho county, Kansas, and locating at Osage Mission (now St. Paul), in October, 1870, where they resided two years. Mr. Schmitz bought property in town on which he built and operated a brewery. In 1873 he moved to Parsons, being largely influenced by the father-in-law of J. C. Appich, who had conducted a bakery at St. Paul, and also by the fact that the division headquarters of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway were located at Parsons.

Desiring a change of business, Mr. Schmitz disposed of his brewery property at St. Paul. For a time he rented a house in the southeastern part of Parsons, and was employed in various ways. He finally engaged in the dairy business, handling from 40 to 50 cows. He bought 10 acres of land situated between Johnson and Corning avenues, which he still owns, and continued in the dairy business several years, supplying his customers from the dairy wagon, and enjoying a fine patronage in the city. Mr. Schmitz has established himself in an elegant and commodious home on Forrest avenue and Fourteenth street, and is now practically retired.

Ten children have been born to him and his wife, as follows: John; Gertrude; Anthony P.; Girard G.; Charles J.; Labourous and Louise, deceased; Katie; Henry; and Agnes. John was born in 1858, and is engaged in the jewelry business at Parsons. Gertrude (McInerny), a widow, residing in Parsons, was born in 1860. Anthony P. was born in 1862, and lives in Chicago, and is manager of a hat and fur store. Girard G. was born in 1864, and is a jeweler in Chicago. Charles J. was born in Sauk county, Wisconsin, in 1866, but was practically reared and educated in Parsons. His first work was for George Walters at a lunch counter. In 1886 he became a

brakeman on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, under Superintendent T. G. Golden, and worked thus until 1889, on the Cherokee Division. He then was promoted to be a freight conductor. He runs over the Cherokee and Neosho divisions mainly at the present time, but has changed runs over three divisions. He has been very fortunate, having been connected with but one slight accident; he is generally regarded as a successful and competent young railroad man. He is making his home with his parents. Fraternally, he is a member of Division No. 161, O. R. C., of Parsons, also of Lodge No. 525, B. P. O. E., of Parsons. Labourous and Louise died young. Katie, who was born in St. Paul, in 1872, is a clerk, and for the past eight years has had a position in Joice's large department store. Henry, who was born in 1876, is at home, and is now running a switch engine at Muskogee. Agnes was born in 1879, and is at home.

Mr. Schmitz is a supporter of the Democratic party, and an admirer of the principles of Jefferson and Jackson, but has never allowed his party enthusiasm to interfere with his daily duties in the least. The family are members of the Catholic church.

ILLIAM H. MADDOCKS, chief draughtsman of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, resides at Parsons, Labette county, Kansas. He was born in England in December, 1862. His parents were both natives of England, where his father is superintendent of the Brunswick works of the Patent Shaft & Axletree Company, Limited. He is a man of fine mechanical ability, which was







J. A. JONES.

transmitted to his sons, who follow similar professions. Mrs. Maddocks, whose maiden name was Sarah Ann Orme, is deceased. William H. Maddocks has three brothers now living: Thomas, George and Arthur.

Mr. Maddocks attended the common schools, and afterward the grammar and technical schools of his native city, and was later apprenticed to the trade of machinist and draughtsman. He finally located in America, and for a time was at Toronto, Canada. From there he went to Bloomington and Chicago, Illinois, where he was employed on the Chicago & Alton and Chicago & North-Western railroads as a machinist. He chose a floating position in order to better familiarize himself with his chosen profession. In the course of his travels he first visited Kansas about 1882. The following year he entered Cornell University, in New York State, and took a course in mechanical engineering, thus completing his preparation for his chosen life work. Returning to service on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, he served some time as a draughtsman, and did similar work on the Missouri Pacific Railway, at Palestine, Texas. He was later transferred to St. Louis and placed in charge of the draughting department for the entire system, under O. A. Haynes, superintendent of locomotives and cars. In 1889, Mr. Maddocks was called to Parsons, where he received an offer from the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, and immediately assumed the duties of his present position. He prepares designs for the locomotives, machinery, boiler plants, etc., used over the entire system. He has a fine office at the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway shops in Parsons; his duties call him away on the road frequently.

Mr. Maddocks married Ada Bate, a daughter of J. R. and Sarah (Stearn) Bate, for-

merly of Michigan, but now of Parsons, Kansas. He has invested in some fine residence property in Parsons, and recently remodeled his home. Mr. Maddocks is a man of sterling worth and integrity. He is a prominent member of the Republican party in his section, and his convictions in matters of public interest are based on accurate information and correct conclusions. He affiliates with Masonic bodies, is a Knight Templar and a member of Abdallah Temple of Mystic Shriners, of Leavenworth, Kansas. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum and also of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, with headquarters in New York City, being the only member from Kansas. He is also a member of St. Louis and Chicago Railroad clubs. In his religious views, he adheres to the Episcopal faith and is a regular attendant at church. He stands high in his chosen profession and has reached a degree of efficiency attained by few. He has made an excellent record, rarely bettered in all its particulars. He takes great personal pride in keeping abreast of the times, and uses only the best and most modern plans and materials, many of which are the result of his striking originality, skill and genius.



A. JONES, widely known as a representative farmer of Walton township, Labette county, Kansas, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, is living in the southwest quarter of section 22. He was born in Summit county, Ohio, in 1846, and is a son of Nathan S. and Sarah Jones.

Nathan S. Jones and his wife were natives of Ohio, where they lived during their married life. They reared two children: Oscar

N., who went to Knox county, Illinois, when he was twenty-one years old, and died shortly afterward; and J. A., the subject of this sketch.

J. A. Jones was not yet two years old when his parents died, and he went to live with an uncle, whose name was James Hammond. James Hammond was a farmer in Knox county, Illinois, where Mr. Jones lived until he located in Labette county, Kansas, in May, 1869. He built the first house on the prairie in the south half of Walton township, and named the township, in 1870, after his old friend, George T. Walton. With an ox team, he hauled lumber from Oswego, to build his house. He first located on the northeast quarter of section 28, where he lived until 1871, when he sold that place, and bought the northwest quarter of the same section, and also his present farm,—the southwest quarter of section 22. In 1873, he built the house which now stands on the land, and the place has been his abode ever since. Mr. Jones carries on general farming and stock raising, and keeps 200 head of cattle. He has been very successful, and is one of the best farmers in the county.

Mr. Jones married Jennie M. Singleton, who was born in Kentucky. She is a cousin of Jesse Harper, who is owner of the famous race horse, Ten Broek. Mr. Jones and his wife have had the following children, namely: Susan A.; James H. and Addie, deceased; Lena J.; Willie B.; Oscar N., deceased; Elsie; John I.; and James A. Lena J. and Willie B. are teachers in the government Indian school in the Choctaw Nation.

Mr. Jones is independent in politics, and was the first treasurer of the township. He helped to organize its first school district and has served on the school board a number of years. He has also been a justice of the peace. Mr. Jones has served as clerk of the dis-

trict court one term. He and his family are members of the Baptist church. Mr. Jones is an upright man, and a good citizen.

---

**J**AMES A. WILSON, foreman of the machine shops of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, was born in Scotland, at Bathgate, Linlithgowshire, just 15 miles from the city of Edinburgh; in 1860. He is a son of James and Margaret (Andrews) Wilson, both of whom were natives of Scotland.

James Wilson was born in Scotland, in 1825, and was a millwright by occupation. He came to the United States, in 1862, with his wife and child. Two days before landing at Montreal, Canada, he had the misfortune to lose his wife. After reaching his destination, he entered the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, during which time his son was left with his brother-in-law, John Andrews, in Indiana. Our subject remained with him six months, and then went to live with an uncle, Robert L. Wilson, at Piasa, Illinois. Robert L. Wilson sold out shortly after this, and went to Kansas to live, locating in Greenwich, Sedgwick county. James A. Wilson then took charge of his son.

The subject of this sketch received his schooling in Illinois, and in St. Louis, Missouri, where his father moved after leaving the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company. During his vacation in 1870, he entered the machine shops of that company, and later in the year went to Glasgow, Scotland, with his father. There Mr. Wilson at once entered the marine department of Randolph & Elden, ship builders, and served as an apprentice, for eight months. He then worked, for six

months, at Dubb's Locomotive Works, and later, for the Newton Steel Company, Limited, of Glasgow, Scotland. He remained there until he became of age, and in October, 1881, again came to America, and landed at New York. He visited with a friend in New York for three weeks, and then went to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he engaged as a machinist in the Westinghouse High Speed Engine shops, where he remained for six months. Mr. Wilson then went to Chicago, where he was engaged with the Frazer & Chalmers Machine Company, where he remained about one year. He worked for the Preston Iron Works, of Marinette, Wisconsin, for six months, after which he returned to Chicago, where he was employed by the J. J. Clawson Printing Machine Company. After his marriage, in 1884, he started a steam and gas fitting shop, and was building up a splendid trade, when, in 1886, he decided to go to Washington. He did not carry out this resolve, however, but located in Parsons, Labette county, Kansas, July 7, 1886. He entered the employ of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, as a machinist. His fine abilities were soon recognized, and in 1888 he was made foreman of the shops,—the position he now holds. He has had some valuable experience, and is considered a very fine machinist. The shops, in which he is employed, give work to 65 men in the machinery department and are the main machine shops of the system.

Mr. Wilson was united in marriage with Lillie McDown, in September, 1889. She is a daughter of William McDown, who was an early settler of Labette county. She was raised near Matthewson. Mr. Wilson and his wife have four children, namely: Beatrice; James William; Josephine Helen; and Ralph An-

drew. Mr. Wilson is a Democrat in politics, and served as councilman of the Fourth Ward during 1898 and 1899. Fraternally, he is a member of the K. O. T. M. and M. W. of A.; he was formerly a member of the Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Wilson is a member of the Royal Neighbors. Mr. Wilson was raised a Presbyterian. His wife is a member of the Methodist church. They are well known in Parsons, where they have a host of friends.



HARLES L. ANDERSON. This gentleman is a well known engineer, employed by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company. He has had a long and varied career in the railroad business, is a thoroughly competent man, and enjoys the confidence and respect of his employers, and of those associated with him in his work. Mr. Anderson was born in the northern part of Sweden, in a town called Norrköping, in 1850. He is a son of Gustav and Catherine Anderson, both of whom died in Sweden.

Mr. Anderson was the only child of his parents, and he received his mental training in his native town, where he lived until he reached the age of eighteen years. Then he left Sweden, alone, and came to this country. Following the example of many foreigners, he headed for Chicago, but shortly after his arrival there he set out for the state of Kansas. He located in Junction City, and engaged as a laborer, in grade work for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company. April 1, 1870, he went to Oswego, where he worked under Foreman Chess. They camped near the site of the present depot at Oswego. Mr. Anderson continued grade work until 1873, when he

moved to Parsons, and helped to build the roundhouse. June 19, 1873, he was employed as wiper in the roundhouse, and three years later he became fireman on a switch engine, for Engineer George Carr. Mr. Carr was one of the pioneers of Parsons, and is now deceased. Mr. Anderson was promoted to be a road engineer, June 12, 1882, and his career as such has been very successful. His first work as an engineer was mainly in pulling freight over the Cherokee Division. In 1897 he was given a regular passenger run, and is now engineer on trains Nos. 3 and 4, running opposite to Samuel Wick. Alfred Wick, now deceased, was Mr. Anderson's partner in the building and stock business in Oswego, and was one of his warmest friends. Mr. Wick was one of the first friends made after Mr. Anderson came to America.

Mr. Anderson formed a marital union with Matilda Holstrom, in 1874. She was also a native of Sweden, and died three years after her marriage. Two children resulted from this union: One, a son, dying in infancy; and Rena, who died at the age of seven years. August 19, 1879, Mr. Anderson was married to Mollie Terrell, who was born at Prairieeton, Indiana, near Terre Haute, in 1858. They have had five children, namely: Fred, who died at the age of eight days; Willie, who died, aged seven and a half years; Arthur, who was born in May, 1883, and is now employed in the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway shops; Edward, who is at school; and Louisa, who was born in June, 1896.

Mr. Anderson built a very comfortable home on the corner of Stevens and Eighteenth streets, where he has lived for the past twenty-two years. He formerly lived in Crawford, Kansas, where in 1874 he built one of the first houses erected in that town. Mr. Anderson

is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Division No. 179, of Parsons; and is also a Mason and Knight Templar. He is a charter member of the A. O. U. W., Lodge No. 1, of Parsons, and of the Select Friends. Religiously, he favors the Methodist church, of which his wife is a member.



J. WILSON, a member of the firm of W. J. Wilson & Brother, dealers in coal and farming implements, is one of Mound Valley's most progressive citizens. He was born in Portage county, Ohio, in 1846, and is a son of William and Letitia (Glendenning) Wilson.

William Wilson was a native of Scotland, and came to America at the age of ten years. He located in Labette county, Kansas, in 1883, and died there in 1899, aged ninety years. His wife, whose name was Letitia Glendenning, died ten years before her husband's decease. They were the parents of six children, namely: Mrs. Allison Savage, of Mound Valley, Kansas; Rebecca (Moncrief), of Nevada, Missouri; Isabel, who was married in Indiana, and died in Mound Valley; William J.; Judson, who is in business with his brother William; and Joseph, who settled on a farm in Labette county, in 1883.

William J. Wilson obtained his early schooling in Portage county, Ohio, and at the age of nine years moved with his parents to Jennings county, Indiana, where he attended the common schools. In 1866 he went to Illinois, where he remained three years, after which he returned to Indiana. In 1870, Mr. Wilson moved to Kansas, and took up the northeast quarter of section 22, township 33, range 18, in Mound Valley township, Labette







THOMAS J. SHARP.




MRS. HARRIET S. SHARP.



county. At that time there were about two dozen settlers in Mound Valley township. He traded his farm for one owned by H. W. Savage, his brother-in-law, who now cultivates a farm south of Mound Valley. In 1872, Judson Wilson bought the northwest quarter of section 22, township 33, range 18, and the brothers farmed together. They also lived some years with Mr. Savage, conducting the farm in partnership. Then Mr. Wilson traded 80 acres of the claim he originally filed on, and Mr. Savage built on the corner 80 acres. Mr. Wilson, later, bought 80 acres more, and still owns the farm. In 1884, he moved to Altamont, where he ran a lumber yard for a short time, and, one year later, sold out the lumber yard to S. A. Brown & Company. Mr. Wilson entered the coal business, in Mound Valley, with his brother Judson, in 1885, and they have continued in that line ever since. In 1890, they added implements and grain to their stock, and three years later, erected a building, the under-roof portion of which is 80 by 48 feet, in dimensions. They handle Rock Island goods largely, and also the Emerson & Company, Moline Plow Company and Robinson & Company wares. They have a well stocked store, and their business is very large and is increasing each year. Mr. Wilson and his brother are men of good business principles, and are honest and upright in all their dealings.

Mr. Wilson married Huldah Moyer, who was reared in Pennsylvania. She has a sister,—Mrs. Sarah Hildreth,—who lives at Altamont. Mr. Wilson and his wife have one daughter, Delia G., who was born in 1884. Mr. Wilson is a Prohibitionist, although he was formerly a Republican. He and his brother have served in the council, and as township officers. They are loyal citizens, and actively interested in all public enterprises,

which are for the good of the community. Mr. Wilson is a member of the I. O. O. F. Religiously, he belongs to the Baptist church, in which he is a deacon.

HOMAS J. SHARP, a highly respected farmer residing in section 13, township 34, range 20, in Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, is one of the pioneer settlers of the county. He was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, in 1849, and is a son of Madison Sharp, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

Thomas J. Sharp was reared in Illinois, until he reached the age of seventeen years, when he moved to Hunt county, Texas. In 1868, he moved to Neosho county, Kansas, and one year later to Labette county, where he took up the southwest quarter of section 7, township 34, range 20. This he greatly improved, and still owns the farm. In 1892, Mr. Sharp removed to the farm of his mother-in-law in Hackberry township. Her property consists of a half section, and is finely improved. This farm had been purchased by her husband from Mr. Peck. Mr. Sharp prefers and raises Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He is very well informed on all agricultural matters, and uses many modern implements in tilling the soil.

Mr. Sharp was married in Labette county, to Harriet Snow, a daughter of Henry and Mary J. (Colby) Snow. Mr. Snow located in Labette county in 1868, and took up a claim adjoining Mr. Sharp's. He died there in 1873. Mrs. Snow married Mr. Houts in 1885, and he died several years later. Mrs. Houts now lives in Oswego. Mr. Sharp's wife was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, in 1852. Mr.

and Mrs. Sharp have been blessed with seven children, namely: Henry, who is a butter-maker in a creamery at Matfield, Kansas, and who married a daughter of D. M. Miller, and has two children,—Myrl and Gladys; Isaac M., who is a stenographer for a hardware and implement company at Shreveport, Louisiana, and was formerly with Funkhouser, of West Plains, Missouri; May, who is cashier in C. M. Condon's store at Oswego; Maude; Lula; Ettie; and Bessie.

In politics, Mr. Sharp is a Republican. He has served in township offices and on the school board, in District No. 7. He was formerly a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. Religiously, he attends the Methodist church at Oswego. Mr. Sharp is always an active supporter of all public enterprises, and is a useful and irreproachable citizen. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Sharp, engraved from photographs taken in July, 1901, accompany this sketch, and may be found on a page in proximity to this.



**WISE BROTHERS.** The citizens of Mound Valley, Labette county, Kansas, have reason to be proud of the fact that in their thriving little city is one of the largest merchandise stores in Labette county. This store is owned and conducted by Luther H. and J. Albert Wise. They are sons of W. J. and Susan (Allen) Wise.

W. J. Wise is a native of Greene county, Illinois. His wife was also a native of that place; her death occurred in Montgomery county, Kansas, in 1876. W. J. Wise located on a farm at Cherryvale, Kansas, in 1869, where he followed farming during his active

life. He now resides at Coffeyville, and is sixty-eight years old. Four children resulted from his union with Susan Allen, namely: Luther H.; J. Albert; J. F., who is a hardware merchant of Cherryvale; and G. E., who is employed in his brothers' store at Mound Valley.

Luther H. Wise was born in 1858, and was reared and schooled in the state of Kansas. His first work was as clerk in the store of Kincaid & Root, general merchants. He was employed there for some time, and became familiar with all the details of the work. In 1883, in partnership with his brother J. Albert, Mr. Wise entered the general merchandise business at Mound Valley, and they now have one of the largest and finest stores in the county. In 1890, the present two-story, brick block was erected by them, through the assistance of F. P. Dicus & Company, at a cost of over \$9,000. Since that time, Wise Brothers have purchased the Dicus interests and own the entire building. Their store occupies the whole lower floor, and the second floor is used for offices, and for the Masonic hall. One side of the store is devoted to the sale of dry goods and clothing, and the other side to groceries and shoes. The stock is valued at \$15,000. A cash-carrier system is used, thus requiring the constant attention of a cashier. Five people are employed as clerks, and a very large business is done. Mr. Wise and his brother are men of excellent business ability, and of upright principles, and the knowledge of this fact has brought them a large number of patrons, who are sure of receiving prompt and respectful attention.

Luther H. Wise was united in marriage with Omah Able, who was born in Illinois. Her mother died when she was quite young, and Mrs. Wise was reared by her grandia-



ther in Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Wise are the parents of three children, namely: Lloyd V.; Byron; and Luther Henry, Jr. They own a fine home in Mound Valley.

J. Albert Wise married Lena Riff, a daughter of Joseph Riff, Sr., who was an early settler of Mound Valley, and for many years was engaged in business there. Mr. Wise and his wife have two children living,—Lyman A. and Helen E. Another, Irene, died recently. Mr. Wise was lately elected mayor of Mound Valley. In politics, he is a Republican. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M., and the M. W. of A.

Luther H. Wise is also a Republican, and has served on the school board and in the city council. He is a member of the M. W. of A. lodge, and his wife belongs to the Fraternal Aid. Mr. Wise is secretary of the Mound Valley Natural Gas & Mineral Company. His brother, J. Albert Wise, is treasurer of the company. Both Luther H. and J. Albert Wise are members of the Presbyterian church.

**J**AMES BEGGS, of the firm of Beggs & Wilson, was for a long time the proprietor of the only furniture and undertaking establishment in Mound Valley, Kansas. He was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1832, and is a son of William and Martha Beggs.

William and Martha Beggs, were natives of Ireland. They reared four children, as follows: William, Jr., deceased; Mary (Richardson), who lives in Ohio, aged eighty-four years; Rachael, deceased; and James, the subject of this sketch.

James Beggs received his early mental training in Ireland, and at the age of sixteen

years came to America, in company with his parents. They located in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, where the father carried on farming. James attended school for six months in Pennsylvania. He learned the cabinetmaking trade at Mercer, in Mercer county, where he worked under Henry Heasley three years. He also learned the undertaking business. Soon after he left Mr. Heasley's employ, he went to Plainfield, Illinois, where he worked at his trade. In March, 1871, Mr. Beggs removed to Labette county, Kansas, where he bought a claim. He now owns a half of section 30, township 32, range 19. He improved this and carried on farming for thirteen years, when he moved to Mound Valley, and was engaged in the hardware business for one year. Then, in partnership with Rev. E. A. Graham, he conducted a furniture and undertaking establishment, under the firm name of Graham & Beggs. In April, 1899, he bought Rev. Mr. Graham's interest, and conducted the business alone until the spring of 1901, when he sold a half interest to W. W. Wilson. They occupy a building 50 by 60 feet in dimensions, and carry a full line of furniture with undertaking supplies in the rear. There is no competition and the concern does a large amount of business. Mr. Beggs is a thorough business man, and has been very succesful.

Mr. Beggs was married, in Illinois, to Harriet Knapp, who was born in Montpelier, Vermont. She is now sixty-seven years old. They have had four children, three of whom are deceased. The other, Wilson T., is a partner in the Mound Valley Mill Company, with Messrs. Kirk and Allen, and acts as engineer; he married Miss Stotts, and they have two children, Archie M. and Ruth. Mrs. Ella Mahar, a daughter of Mr. Beggs, died in Colorado several years ago, and Mr. Beggs has

reared her three children, one of whom is now teaching in the Mound Valley schools. Mrs. Carrie N. Perkins, another daughter, died a short time ago at Guthrie, Oklahoma, where she was chief clerk in the postoffice. A son of Mr. Beggs died while young.

Mr. Beggs was a Republican until recently, and he now votes the Prohibition ticket. He was a member of the school board, and has been a member of the city council of Mound Valley. Mr. Beggs formerly belonged to the Anti-Horsethief Association, and Select Friends. His ancestors were Presbyterians, but he is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Beggs has erected a comfortable home in Mound Valley, where he is respected by all as a loyal and upright citizen.

---

**W**ILLIAM G. CRUZAN, of the firm of Graham & Cruzan, dealers in general merchandise, in Mound Valley, has been a resident of Labette county since 1883. He is a native of Hamilton county, Indiana, and was born in 1859. He is a son of Alfred and Elizabeth (Good) Cruzan.

Alfred Cruzan lived in Indiana a number of years, and from there moved to Cherokee, Kansas. In 1869, he moved to the old town of Parker, Kansas, where he carried on farming. After his death, the mother having died some years before, the children returned to Indiana, where those surviving now live, with the exception of W. G. Their names are: Mary A. (Sowers), who is a widow; William G.; Alfred J. and Serena Beatrice, deceased; and David D.

William G. Cruzan was but thirteen years old when his father died. After that he was

obliged to earn his own living, and this he has continued to do ever since. He attended the common schools in Indiana, and in 1883 worked out as a farm hand for one year. During the grain and corn season, he bought grain for F. P. Dicus & Company, and also worked in their lumber yard at different times. In 1888, he began clerking for Wise Brothers, and remained with them until 1897. In March, 1897, Mr. Cruzan, in partnership with Rev. E. A. Graham, entered the dry goods business, under the firm name of Graham & Cruzan. They bought out the business of E. A. Steele. The building which they occupy is 24 by 80 feet in dimensions, and was originally used for the hardware store of Moore & Bushnell. The firm carries a large stock of goods, and the store is well patronized. Mr. Cruzan is a thorough business man, is enterprising and progressive, and is regarded as a merchant of firm principles and integrity.

Mr. Cruzan was united in marriage with Eva Sheller, who is a native of Indiana, but who was reared in Kansas. They are the parents of three children, whose names are: Ruth E.; Merle W.; and Esther E. In politics, Mr. Cruzan is a Democrat. Fraternally he is a member of the M. W. of A. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cruzan are members of the Methodist church. Mr. Cruzan is highly respected in Mound Valley, where he takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of the community.

---

**R**EUBEN W. SMITH, a well known farmer, residing in section 15, township 32, range 18, in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Fayette county, Illinois, and was





MR. AND MRS. D. C. CONSTANT.

born in 1860. He is a son of John R. and Martha (Scott) Smith.

John R. Smith lived for a number of years in Shelby county, Illinois, whence he moved to Labette county, in 1870. He took up a claim which adjoins the northern part of the city of Mound Valley. This he improved, and cultivated until his death, which occurred in 1876. His wife died six months before him. They reared six children, namely: Reuben W., the subject of this sketch; G. B., who is a railroad man at Salida, Colorado; Margaret (McCarty), of Wellington, Kansas, whose husband is an employee of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company; John D., who is a bridge man on that road, at Guthrie, Oklahoma; Lizzie (Clark), who lives in Iowa; and Mary (Reeves), of Cherrylvale, Kansas. The three first named were born in Illinois, and the others in Labette county, Kansas.

Reuben W. Smith was ten years old when his parents moved to Labette county, Kansas. He has lived here ever since that time, with the exception of two years,—from 1880 to 1882,—which he spent as a miner in Colorado. In 1890, he bought his present home farm of 160 acres, which was owned by John Rogers, who had improved it considerably. Mr. Smith has added a good orchard, and has made many minor improvements. He carries on general farming, and stock raising. He favors Durham cattle, and recently bought some thoroughbreds at a sale in Kansas City. His intention is to raise high-grade stock. Mr. Smith is a man of good business principles, and has a thorough knowledge of agricultural affairs. He is a good neighbor, and always willing to lend assistance to any one in need.

Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Alice Stotts, a daughter of J. O. Stotts. They have six children, namely: Herbert R.; Mag-

gie; James O.; Georgia; Mabel; and Roy W. Mr. Smith is a member of the People's party. He has served as township treasurer, and has also been on the school board of Globe District, No. 65. Fraternally, he is a member of the M. W. of A. lodge, of Mound Valley. Religiously, he is liberal in his views, while his wife is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Smith is well known in Labette county.



C. CONSTANT. This gentleman has been identified with the growth and development of Labette county for the past thirty-two years. He was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, in 1834, and is a son of Jacob and Levinia (Crocker) Constant. Jacob Constant was born near Crab Orchard, Kentucky, and followed the occupation of a farmer. His wife was a native of Kentucky. Their children are named: James; D. C.; Simpson; Mary; Boyd; and Thomas, deceased.

D. C. Constant lived in Illinois until he attained the age of twenty-four years. After finishing college, he taught school for two or three years. He served in the army during the Civil War, under General Grant, and Captain Ferry. He taught school at St. Louis, Missouri, until 1867, when he located in Grayton county, Texas, where he taught school at Pilot Grove Academy for five years. In 1868-69, Mr. Constant was elected a member of the constitutional convention, from Fannin and Hunt counties, Texas. In 1869, he drove with General Talbot from Texas to Labette county, Kansas. He located in Hackberry township, where he took up a claim, on which he lived until 1873. He was then sent by the government to the Indian Territory, where he taught

the Indians for seven years. Mr. Constant built the first house in the south half of Hackberry township. In 1881, he settled on his present farm in Elm Grove township, which is the southwest quarter of section 12, township 34, range 19. Mr. Constant takes much interest in the progress of this township, and also of Labette county, and is always ready to assist in any enterprise which is for the good of the community. He is widely known in the county, and is a man of firm principles, and good business ability.

Mr. Constant was wedded to Antoinette Snow, who was born in Illinois in 1841. She was a nurse at Leavenworth, Kansas, during the Civil War. They have one son, D. C., Jr., who is in the lumber business in Oklahoma. Mr. and Mrs. Constant have also reared Albert C. McIntyre, who lives with them on the farm.

Mr. Constant is a Republican, and voted for John C. Fremont. He was the first justice of the peace in Hackberry township. He is now serving in that office in Elm Grove township. He represented his district in the state legislature during 1872-73. Religiously, both Mr. Constant and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church, in which they are active workers. They are well known in Labette county, and are highly esteemed by all. Their portraits are presented on a foregoing page in connection with this sketch.

Mrs. Constant's sister, Celia, whose home was in Carlinville, Illinois, married Daniel McIntyre, who was born in Missouri of Scotch parentage. Mr. McIntyre moved to Kansas and settled on a farm in Labette county in the fall of 1869. He was the first trustee of Elm Grove township, where he lived. Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre had six children, namely: William, Lorena, John, Hugh, Daniel and Al-

bert. Mrs. McIntyre passed away in March, 1873, and her husband died five years later, in 1878.

**J**EREMIAH B. COOK, who has been a prominent resident of Labette county, Kansas, since 1871, is extensively engaged in the real estate and loan business, and is operating in several counties. He is one of the substantial citizens of Chopatopa, is a man of high character, and enjoys the esteem and friendship of all with whom he has been brought into contact. He was born at Pleasant Grove, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, June 22, 1834, and is a son of Allen and Rachel (Brown) Cook.

Allen Cook and his wife came of English Quaker families. He was a farmer by occupation, and died in Pennsylvania. She lies buried in Labette county, Kansas. They reared seven children, namely: Edward, who died in California; Jeremiah B., the subject of this sketch; Anna Mary (Slaughter), living near Altamont, Kansas; William, of Oswego; Charles A., of Parker, Kansas; Henry C., who died and was buried at Oswego; and Julia, who who died in Pennsylvania.

Jeremiah B. Cook attended the common schools of Pennsylvania, and then left home at the age of fifteen years. He traveled through the South and West, and visited New Orleans, Memphis, and many other Southern cities. He returned home when eighteen years old, where he remained one year, and then went to California, and engaged in mining and herding cattle. He was a miner in Santa Clara county until 1856. He witnessed the stirring times that called into action the great vigilance committee at San Francisco, and saw the beam on which the leading criminals were



hung. He returned to Pennsylvania in 1856, and in the spring of 1857 located at Kansas City, Missouri, where he remained until March, 1860, and invested in property there. In 1860, he went to Illinois to visit some relatives near Delavan, Tazewell county, who had come west from Pennsylvania. He located upon some unimproved land which he had purchased near Delavan, and lived there until the outbreak of the Civil War. In 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company H, 4th Reg., Ill. Vol. Cav. In this regiment he served as private, corporal, sergeant and second lieutenant, until October 1, 1863, when he was made major of the 3d Reg., U. S. Colored Cavalry, and afterward lieutenant-colonel of the same regiment, which he commanded for over a year. When the war closed, he commanded a cavalry brigade of 2,300 men, composed of the 3d U. S., 4th Illinois and 2d Wisconsin regiments. In 1866, he cultivated 800 acres of cotton in Arkansas, near Memphis, and then went to his old home near Delavan, Illinois, where he finished improving his farm. He came to Labette county, Kansas, in April, 1871, and improved a large farm, 10 miles west of Chetopa. He took as a claim the northeast quarter of section 25, township 34, range 19, in Elm Grove township, and some years later traded it for the Cook Building, which had been built by Stephen Marsh, at the corner of Fourth and Maple streets, Chetopa, and which Mr. Cook still owns. From 1874 to 1885, he was extensively engaged in the land and loan business, and sold during that period more than 100 farms and loaned over one million dollars, without the loss of a single dollar to the Eastern capitalists whom he represented. He advertised the country largely, in the East and North, by means of printed matter. In 1885 and 1886, he was a mem-

ber of the Kansas legislature, and was mayor of Chetopa for seven consecutive years. During 1885 and 1886, he was one of the projectors of the Denver, Memphis & Atlantic Railroad, and was first vice-president at the time of its completion. It now forms a part of the Missouri Pacific system. Mr. Cook retired from business in 1885, and was succeeded by the Neosho Valley Investment Company. In 1886, he erected his fine home of veneered brick, which is one of the most attractive in the city. In 1895, he reopened a loan and real estate office in order to dispose of some of his holdings, and has since done a general loan, real estate, insurance and renting business, in his fine offices in the Cook Building.

Mr. Cook was first married at Decatur, Illinois, to Mrs. Hannah Prosser, *nee* Pitts, a native of Salem, Indiana, who died in 1892. He formed a second union by marrying Rose Dorland, of Bartlett, Kansas, and they have two children: Harry D., and J. B., Jr. In politics, he has always been a Republican, and is a very strong Prohibitionist. Fraternally, he is a member of Chetopa Post, G. A. R.; the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of Pythias, of Chetopa. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.



J. COLEMAN, familiarly known as Prof. Coleman, has been a resident of Labette county, Kansas, since 1870. He is of the seventh generation from Thomas Coleman, who came from England, and settled at Newburyport, Massachusetts, in 1637. G. J. Coleman was born in Dutchess county, New York, in 1826, and is

a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Dean) Coleman.

Jethro Coleman, grandfather of G. J., was born on Nantucket Island, in 1755, and died September 17, 1817. He was a sea captain for many years. Benjamin Coleman, the father of G. J., was born on Nantucket Island, December 8, 1788, and his death occurred May 20, 1845. He was a wealthy stockman. He married Sarah Dean, who was a native of New York. She died when G. J. was quite young. Seven children resulted from this union, among whom were the following: Henry, who was born September 9, 1816, and died in December, 1816; Mary, who died in 1839; Edwin, who died in 1830; Joseph D., who was born July 14, 1820, at Stanfordville, Dutchess county, New York, and is a farmer in that county; G. J., the subject of this sketch; and Robert R., who was born May 31, 1828, and died January 3, 1882,—his family resides in Mound Valley. William C., a son of Robert R., is manager of the Carbon Light Company, with headquarters at Wichita.

G. J. Coleman, the subject of this sketch, was reared and schooled in his native county. He graduated from the Quaker boarding school in the town of Nine Partners, and began lecturing on chemistry, astronomy and philosophy, at the age of nineteen years. Until his removal to Kansas, he traveled constantly, and lectured in all the states east of the Mississippi river, with the exception of Maine, Michigan and Louisiana. His name was in a lecture bureau's book in New York City, and he was sent to different cities, and was paid by the night.

Mr. Coleman, in company with his son, K. B. Coleman, left New York in 1870, with the determination of driving west, to Kansas. He lectured en route, and when he reached

Kansas, in the fall of 1870, he had \$80 more in money than he had when he left New York. Mr. Coleman met his brother at Kansas City, and came to Labette county. They bought land from two men who had located claims in the north half of section 26, township 32, range 18. Mr. Coleman secured the northwest quarter, and his brother took the northeast quarter. They built frame houses, which were located on opposite sides of the main road to Mound Valley. Mr. Coleman has a finely improved farm. About fifteen years ago, he set out 15 acres of trees, and his orchard bears fine fruit. Mr. Coleman lectured several years, to pay for the farm, and his wife taught school three years in their own house. Subsequently, when the schoolhouse was built north of this farm, she taught two years longer. Mr. Coleman is a very intelligent man, and is thoroughly conversant with agricultural matters, as well as with those topics which were the source of his income in earlier years. He has always been prominently identified with the growth and prosperity of Mound Valley township, and gives his support to all public enterprises.

Mr. Coleman was united in marriage, in New York, with Harriet A. Bushnell. She was born November 14, 1830, at Hunter, Greene county, New York. She is a daughter of Alvin and Fannie (Shepherd) Bushnell. Alvin Bushnell was born in Massachusetts, and his death took place in Labette county, Kansas, in 1875. His wife was a native of Connecticut, and died in Chicago, Illinois, while on a visit there. Seven children, of ten that were born to them, reached maturity, namely: Aaron, who died in 1889; Gideon E., who died in 1900; A. Bigelow, who lives in Mound Valley; George, who died April 7, 1900; Harriet A., the wife of Mr. Coleman;

Fannie, deceased; and Sarah, who is now in Oklahoma. Mrs. Coleman was reared and educated in New York. She graduated from the State Normal School, at Albany, in 1848, and taught school for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman have been blessed with four children, namely: Nettie, who married Clarence Lown, who died at Poughkeepsie, New York; Kay B. married Emma McGregory, who died at Mound Valley, October 19, 1893, having had three daughters,—one of whom, Ethel S., lives with Prof. Coleman,—and Bessie and May, who are deceased; Dean S.; and Fannie, the wife of W. B. Covalt, of Wichita, who has one child, George, Jr., named after the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Coleman is a member of the Populist party. He has served as township clerk, and clerk of the school board, and has filled both offices in an able manner. He was formerly a member of the Good Templars lodge. He has always been a Quaker, but the other members in his family are Baptists. Mr. Coleman is a very popular man, and has always been a loyal and upright citizen. He has many warm friends in Labette county.



**M**RS. MARY OAKLEAF, widow of the late Benjamin Oakleaf, is living in the northeast quarter of section 20, township 33, range 18, in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas. She is a native of Sweden, and was born in 1830. In Sweden she married Benjamin Oakleaf, who was also a native of that country.

Benjamin Oakleaf's Swedish name was Christianson, but before coming to America he took his wife's maiden name,—Oakleaf,—it being more easily spoken. He was born in

1827, and his death occurred, February 1, 1893. While a resident of his native country, he was united in marriage with Mary Oakleaf, and they came to America in 1857, settling in Moline, Illinois. There Mr. Oakleaf worked in a paper factory.

In the fall of 1869, Mr. Oakleaf, in company with his family, removed to Labette county, Kansas. They took up the present home farm which is the northeast quarter of section 20, township 33, range 18, in Mound Valley township. The first towns in that vicinity were Neosho and Oswego. Mr. Oakleaf at once began to make improvements on the farm, setting out a number of trees which were obtained in Montgomery county. He bought 80 acres of land south of his place, thus becoming the owner of 240 acres of fine farming land. He also bought each of his sons a quarter section, and they are prosperous farmers and good business men. Mr. Oakleaf made wheat his staple crop, and was very successful in all his undertakings. His death, which took place in 1893, was greatly lamented as he was one of the most loyal citizens, and progressive workers in the township. He was a man of good principles, and fine business ability, and was very popular in the community.

Mr. Oakleaf and his wife were the parents of two children, born in Sweden. One died, en route to this country, and the other child died but two weeks after landing. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Oakleaf, in America, namely: Charles P., who lives near the old homestead, and is one of the successful farmers of the county; Joseph, an attorney at Moline, Illinois; Emanuel, who married a daughter of Israel Johnson, and owns a fine farm near his former home; and Stephen, who is managing the home farm for his mother.

Stephen Oakleaf married Iola Wallace, who was born in Clinton county, Illinois, in 1866, and is the second of a family of seven children, namely: Silas, who lives in Oklahoma; Iola; Arthur, who is engaged in a sawmill in the Indian Territory; Gillam, who went to the Philippines in 1899, and is serving in the army; Minnie (Nelson), who lives a mile and a half west of Mound Valley; Rose, the wife of Ed Stotts, of Mound Valley township; and Victoria, the wife of William Humphrey, a hardware dealer in Mound Valley. The Wallace family settled in this county in 1881. Stephen Oakleaf and his wife have four children, whose names are: Wintress; Lillian; Gertrude; and Marcus.

Benjamin Oakleaf was a Democrat, in politics, and served several terms as justice of the peace. The family attend the Methodist church, the services of which are held in the Richland school-house. Mrs. Oakleaf is a woman of many estimable qualities, and is greatly esteemed by all.



MADISON SHARP, a pioneer settler of Labette county, Kansas, is living in the southwest quarter of section 18, township 34, range 20, in Hackberry township. He was born in Claiborne county, in Eastern Tennessee, in 1834, and is a son of Isaac and Chloe (Berry) Sharp.

Isaac Sharp was a native of Tennessee, as was his wife. He served in the Black Hawk War, and died en route to California, in 1849. He and his wife had the following children, namely: John J.; Madison; Betsy Ann; Jefferson; Joseph; George; Emery; Easter and Polly, twins; Amanda; and William.

Madison Sharp removed with his parents to Illinois, when a small boy. This was during the Blackhawk War, in which his father took part. There, Madison was reared, and he remained at home until he reached the age of twenty-two years. He then removed to the southeast corner of Macoupin county, where he farmed until 1865. In that year he went to Texas. In August, 1867, in company with 80 others he removed to Kansas, and first located at Chetopa. He lived for two years in Neosho county, and meanwhile took a claim in Neosho Grove township, Labette county,—in the northeast quarter of section 13, township 34, range 19. He made several improvements on this land. In 1869, he moved to Labette county, and lived on his claim until 1898. He then built his present home in Hackberry township in the southwest quarter of section 18, township 34, range 20. His daughter, Martha J., had proved this quarter section. Mr. Sharp was one of the first settlers to build in the township, at the time when there no other houses in sight. Mr. Sharp now owns and manages over a section of land. He carries on diversified farming, and raises a high grade of cattle and hogs. He is a thrifty and conscientious farmer, and always finds time to assist in any public enterprise, which is for the good of the community.

Mr. Sharp was united in marriage with Mary Thomas, in Illinois. She is a native of Tennessee, and is now seventy-eight years old. To this union have been born eight children, namely: Martha Jane (Peters), who lives in Indiana; Thomas J., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; Elsie; Isaac, who is a railroad man in Texas; Walter, who lives in Labette county; James, who lives near his father's farm; Mary (Taylor), of Georgia; and Amanda (Perkins), of Labette county.

In politics, Mr. Sharp is a Republican; although he has always taken a deep interest in the political affairs of his county, he has declined to accept public office. He is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. In religious views, he is liberal.

**J**OHN L. HUMPHREY, who was one of the earliest settlers of Labette county, Kansas, is one of the most highly respected citizens of Mound Valley township. He is an influential member of the community, and has always been foremost in advancing the interests of the county. He was born in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1845, and is a son of William and Jane (Law) Humphrey.

The ancestry of the Humphrey family is traceable back to Cromwell. William Humphrey was born in Ireland, came to America when a boy and located in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1820. He was a Free-Soiler and a strong anti-slavery man. He died in 1884. His wife was of Scotch-Irish parentage and died in Ohio in 1896. They reared nine children, as follows: Elizabeth; Thomas, a prosperous farmer, who died in Saline county, Missouri, in 1886; Margaret (Patterson), deceased, whose husband is one of the Rea Patterson Milling Company of Coffeyville, Kansas; Mary, wife of William Patterson, a feeder and stock dealer, now residing in Fairmont Park, Kansas City, Missouri; Catherine, wife of Dr. William Foster, a very successful physician, of Superior, Nebraska; John L., who was named after his grandfather, a descendant of the great financier, John Law; Martha (Spiker), who resides near the old homestead in Ohio; Ellen, wife of A. C. Bir-

ney, who lives south of Mound Valley; and Annie (Haverfield), whose husband owns a planing mill and lumber yard at Jewett, Ohio.

John L. Humphrey was reared in Ohio and attended the State Normal School. He had decided when a boy to go west, to Kansas, and this decision was carried into execution, in 1869. He arrived in Labette county, Kansas, early in 1870, looked over the county, and then went to Missouri and taught school for a time. He permanently located in this county in October, 1870, settling in Mound Valley township, in the southwest quarter of section 26, township 32, range 18, which he preempted. He came alone, but in the fall of 1871 returned to Ohio, and was married. He resided upon his preemption until 1885, and then came to his present location, the northeast quarter of section 35, township 32, range 18, in Mound Valley township. He built his fine home of 12 rooms, and two stories high. It is complete in all its details, finely arranged, and equipped with bath room and many modern conveniences. He purchased this quarter section of Charles Herstrom, a blacksmith, now deceased. At one time Mr. Humphrey owned five quarter sections and an 80-acre tract, and did an extensive stock raising and feeding business. He has disposed of part of this land, and now owns three quarter-sections, and carries on general farming and stock raising. His place is well stocked with hogs, cattle and horses.

In 1871, Mr. Humphrey was united in marriage with Virginia S. Spiker, a daughter of William and Eliza (Fincal) Spiker. She was the youngest of six children, four of whom arrived at maturity, namely: Sarah Ann (Bargar), of Ohio, whose husband died in 1900; Emma (Birney), who died at Washington, Iowa; Marion, who lives in Ohio; and

Virginia S., who was born in 1849. Mrs. Humphrey's great-great-grandfather fought in the Revolutionary War and her grandfather took part in the war of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey became the parents of the following children: William, who is in the hardware business at Mound Valley, married Victoria Wallis, and has two children,—Harry and Shirley; Marion, who died young; Sunshine; and Thomas Paul who is attending school. Politically, Mr. Humphrey is a supporter of the People's party, but prior to 1890 he was a Republican. He was township treasurer one term, and in 1892 was elected to the state legislature, and served one term. Fraternally, he is a member of the A. O. U. W., of Mound Valley. His wife is a member of the M. E. church.



**P** B. DARLING, an old settler of Labette county, Kansas, erected the first house on the prairie in southwestern part of Osage township. He was born August 29, 1835, in Jackson county, Ohio, and is a son of James H. and Rachel (Howe) Darling.

Timothy Darling, the grandfather of P. B., was born October 22, 1779, and died December 26, 1830, aged fifty-one years, two months and four days. His wife, Elizabeth (Cook) Darling, was born September 6, 1782, and died November 11, 1839, aged fifty-seven years, two months and five days.

James H. Darling was born December 30, 1813, and died at the home of his son Charles, November 26, 1895, aged eighty-one years, ten months and twenty-six days. He enlisted in Company G, 73rd Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf. His wife, Rachel (Howe) Darling, was born

February 16, 1812, and died in Labette county, April 25, 1892, aged eighty years, two months and nine days. P. B. Darling is the oldest child living. Charles lives north of his brother, P. B. Rothburn lives near Cherryvale; Clark, Lind, Neal and William come next in order. Melinda lives in Jackson county, Ohio. John and Amanda, who were twins, were born August 13, 1834, and died, respectively, August 19 and 20th, 1834. Macilla L. was born September 5, 1843, and died March 13, 1845. Tacey B. (Dove) was born August 15, 1837, married December 25, 1853, and died November 29, 1856.

P. B. Darling, the subject of this sketch, remained at home until his marriage, and in January, 1869, moved to Labette county, Kansas. With his wife, Mr. Darling left Knox county, Illinois, September 16, 1868, and visited somewhat in Iowa and Missouri, en route. They were ferried across the Mississippi river at Burlington, Iowa, and then drove direct to Ottumwa, going through the Soap Creek hills to Kansas City, Missouri. From Missouri, they were accompanied by Perry O. C. Nixon, and after ferrying over the Missouri river, they came to Osage, where they stopped with Mr. Nixon's brother at Osage Mission. There Mr. Darling left his wife for a while, and in November, 1868, took up a claim in the township where he now resides,—his wife joining him shortly afterward. He took up 40 acres in section 6, township 32, range 18, and three 40-acre tracts in a direct line west, across the road, in section 1, township 32, range 17. He was involved in litigation with the railroad company for seven years. Mr. Darling first built a box-house, which is now used for a kitchen. It was made of walnut lumber, at \$40 per thousand, and was







DR. C. S. BENDURE.

hauled from Osage Mission. Mr. Darling had a yoke of steers and one horse, and both he and his wife worked in the field. They broke about 15 acres, and planted sod-corn, turnips and wheat. In the spring of 1871, he set out the first orchard, and some of the trees are still standing there. He now has five or six acres of fruit, and over two miles of hedge, eight acres of meadow, and the front of the place is ornamented with cedar tress. Mr. Darling has refused an offer of \$7,000 for the farm. It presents a fine appearance, and is splendidly managed and kept up. Mr. Darling is a hard worker and takes great pride in his home, and his present success has only been reached after years of untiring labor and careful attention. Mr. Darling worked on the railroad during a season of 1871.

May 4, 1859, Mr. Darling married Nancy M. Sinclair, who was born October 27, 1840, in Vinton county, Ohio. She is a daughter of William and Jane (Dawson) Sinclair. Her father died when she was quite young, and her mother departed this life, in Ohio, in 1871. Two of Mrs. Darling's brothers are deceased; Mrs. Catherine Nixon and Mrs. Martha Snook, her sisters, are living on the old farm in Ohio; and another sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Cassill, is in Davis county, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Darling have been blessed with seven children, namely: Frances (Oliver), of Cherryvale; Tony A., a United Brethren preacher, now located at Toronto, Kansas, who is married and has four children; Thomas, who lives near his father; Daniel H., also a resident of Labette county; Tacy P. (Emels), of Cherryvale; Eunice (Cooper), of Cherryvale; and Phenis T., deceased.

Mr. Darling is a Republican in politics, and has served several years as justice of the peace and as notary public. He was formerly

a school director. Mr. and Mrs. Darling belong to the M. E. church. Mr. Darling is highly respected in the county, where he has many warm friends.



R. C. S. BENDURE, one of the foremost citizens of Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, whose portrait is herewith shown, has met with great success in practice at Bartlett, where he has been located since 1889. He was born in Marshall county, Indiana, in 1860, and is a son of W. H. Bendure.

W. H. Bendure was born in Xenia, Ohio, and is a carpenter by trade, although he has also engaged in farming and has conducted a general merchandise store. He now resides in Oklahoma. He married Rebecca J. Stallard, who was born in Indiana, and they have reared the following children: Ollie; C. S.; C. B.; Rosa; N. F.; A. E.; and W. V.

Dr. C. S. Bendure resided in his native county until he reached the age of ten years, and then in 1870, came to Kansas, with his parents, and located in Neosho county. There he resided until 1880, when he moved to Elk county, Kansas, read medicine with W. H. Smethers, M. D., and resided there for two years. In 1882, he entered the university at Kansas City, Missouri, and later the College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he graduated. In 1883, he began practice at Sedan, Kansas, and continued there for one year. He next located at Harts Mills, Kansas, where he was married, and, in 1885, went to the Indian Territory, where he practiced for four years. This change of location was the result of the loss by the Doctor of all his effects, including his residence, through a cloud-burst.

Deeming the prospects brighter in Indian Territory, he concluded to move there, and engage in farming, in connection with his professional work.

In 1889, Dr. Bendure came to Bartlett, Labette county, Kansas, and in a short time had a well established and constantly growing practice. He is a wide awake and energetic man, has kept informed as to the advance made in medical science, and is thoroughly up-to-date in his treatment of all cases. He is a man of pleasing personality, a clever conversationalist, and has formed many lasting friendships in this county.

Dr. Bendure was united in matrimony with Margaret E. Ashmore, who was born in Illinois, in 1865, and is a daughter of R. N. Ashmore, of Elk county, Kansas, of which county the latter was probate judge for seven years. This union resulted in the birth of three children, as follows: Harl W.; Harvey L.; and William N. In politics, Dr. Bendure is a Populist. Fraternally, he belongs to Bartlett Lodge, No. 458, I. O. O. F.; Barlett Lodge, No. 5774, M. W. of A.; Bartlett Lodge, No. 441, A. O. U. W.; Bartlett Lodge, No. 65, S. & D. of J.; Lodge No. 1721, Royal Neighbors; and Bartlett Lodge, No. 99, Anti-Horsethief Association. He is also a member of the Southeastern Kansas Medical Association. Religiously, he is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church.



B. RAMSEY, a well known farmer residing in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Lawrence county, Illinois, in 1837, and is a son of Aaron and Elizabeth (Barber) Ramsey.

Aaron Ramsey was born in Indiana, and

died in Wabash county, Illinois, in 1842. His father, Allen Ramsey, served under General William Henry Harrison, and helped to hold the fort against the Indians during their outbreak. He was born in Scotland. Elizabeth (Barber) Ramsey, the mother of J. B., was born in Tennessee in 1796, and was of Welsh descent. Unto them were born eight children, all but two of whom are deceased. The survivors are: Mrs. S. J. Miller, who lives in Howard county, Indiana, and J. B., the subject of this sketch.

J. B. Ramsey was reared in Indiana, where he followed the trade of a carpenter. He bought 40 acres of land in Indiana, but sold it upon his removal to Kansas. He located his farm in Osage township, June 22, 1880, but had been in the county about one year previous to that date. He had about \$500 in cash. He bought 80 acres of land from Henry Todd. In 1883 he moved his family to Cherryvale, where they lived eighteen months. In the meantime he rented the farm. He returned to the farm, where he built a substantial house of nine rooms, with a surrounding porch. The farm was partly hedged, and Mr. Ramsey set out a hedge row, which divides the fields, and also set out an orchard. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and is considered one of the best farmers in the county.

Mr. Ramsey married Sarah Hall, in 1863, and she died in Indiana, in 1864, leaving one son: Thomas O., who lives four miles northwest of his father's farm,—he married Ella Hughes, and they have two children, Carl and Inez. Mr. Ramsey married, secondly, Nancy A. Beaver, who was born in Rush county, Indiana, June 5, 1847. They became the parents of four sons and two daughters, namely: Mina; G. Rolla; Walter; J. Fletcher; Bessie; and LeRoy H. Mina (Burtle), who was born

in Indiana, now lives in Wichita, Kansas, and is the mother of three children. G. Rolla was born in Indiana, and married Leatha Robb; he is a tinner in Wichita. Walter, who was born in Indiana, married Attie Miller; he is a carpenter, and lives in Wichita. J. Fletcher was born in Labette county, and is engaged in the restaurant business in Wichita. Bessie is deceased. LeRoy H. is at home.

Mr. Ramsey votes the straight Republican ticket. He was formerly a member of the Good Templars. Mr. Ramsey belongs to the M. E. church, and is a sincere Christian.

**J**OHAN B. OLIPHANT, one of the most prosperous farmers of Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, has been located here since 1867, and is one of the earliest settlers. He owns 240 acres of fine farm land, and is engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Oliphant was born in Johnson county, Missouri, near Warrensburg, in 1847, and is a son of Felix E. and Ann R. (Williams) Oliphant.

Felix E. Oliphant was born in Tennessee, and was of Scotch descent. He went to Missouri at an early day, and at one time owned 300 acres of land there, the consideration for which was 12½ and 25 cents per acre. He did not like the surroundings during the war, and in 1865 sold his fine farm and left the country of southern sympathizers for Kansas. He moved to Doniphan county, Kansas, where he bought land, but later sold out, and in the spring of 1867 came to Labette county. He took as a claim in the northeast quarter of section 7, township 32, range 18, in Osage township, where he lived until his death, in 1888. His widow is still living on this prop-

erty, and is now past seventy years of age. He was an old-line Whig, and later a Republican upon the organization of that party. Mr. and Mrs. Oliphant became the parents of 10 children, of whom eight are now living, as follows: S. D., who resides in Labette county; John B.; L. D., of Joplin, Missouri, who is engaged in mining; J. F., who purchased a farm in the same section as John B. Oliphant, in 1896; C. M., who is engaged in the elevator business in Barton county, Kansas; Joseph B., of Galena, Kansas, who is engaged in mining; and Mary (Tussing) and Susan (Barnes), widows, residing in the northern part of Osage township.

John B. Oliphant was reared in Missouri, and began to shift for himself at the age of seventeen years. He adopted the occupation of a farmer, and has followed it with success all his life. He came to Osage township, Labette county, July 7, 1867, and filed on the northwest quarter of section 6, township 32, range 18, but obtained a conveyance of the north 80 acres only. He later bought the 80 acres directly east and recently purchased the north half of the northeast quarter of section 1, township 32, range 17,—making a farm of 240 acres. It is one of the finest in the county, but little of it being waste land. He first built a box-house, of native lumber, sawed from the timber along the creek, and erected the present large, seven-room, frame house in 1892. He also has large and substantial barns and outbuildings. He set out a hedge and also many fruit trees. In 1894 he set out an orchard of 20 acres, which has done exceptionally well. During his first year on the farm he raised sod-corn, and then sowed wheat and planted corn. He hauled his first crop of wheat to Labette city, where it was sold for \$2.40 per bushel. He engaged in stock rais-

ing, and for some years raised horses, having at one time as many as 25 fine animals.

Mr. Oliphant was united in marriage with Hattie Boutillier, who is of French descent, and was born on the Isle of Jersey. She moved to Iowa with her parents when about two years old, and lived there for twenty years, and then came to Kansas, in 1870. They are the parents of the following children: W. J., who is on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway; F. L., who mined for some years, and is now at home, in partnership with his brother, W. J., in a threshing outfit; Charles; Sylvia, a widow; Alma; Maggie; Ollie; and Ruby. Politically, Mr. Oliphant was a Republican for many years; he cast his last Republican vote for James G. Blaine. Since that time he has been independent, and has voted the Union League ticket. He has served as township trustee. Formerly he belonged to the A. O. U. W. His wife is a member of the Methodist church, and Mr. Oliphant helped to build the church near his home.



W. GUTHRIE is one of the most prosperous farmers of Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, and is located in sections 25 and 36, township 33, range 17. He was born in Jefferson county, Indiana, in 1843, and is a son of A. C. and Ann (Wilson) Guthrie.

A. C. Guthrie was born in Indiana, and at an early day applied himself to agricultural pursuits, which he followed all his life. His union with Ann Wilson resulted in the birth of six children, as follows: Mary Ann; Elizabeth; Sarah; S. W.; Ruhamah, deceased; and William.

S. W. Guthrie was reared in Indiana and

remained at home until the Civil War was in progress, when he enlisted in the 132d Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the war. He then returned to Indiana and resided there until 1870, when he came to Kansas. In October, 1870, he came to Labette county, but did not locate upon his present farm until 1871. He then built a cabin, 12 by 14 feet, in size, and made many important improvements on the farm. His nearest trading points were Oswego and Mound Valley. He has made a great success in general farming and stock raising, and now owns 480 acres in sections 25 and 36, township 33, range 17, in Canada township. In politics, he is a staunch Republican, and takes an active interest in both national and local affairs. He is a man of excellent business qualifications, is honest and upright in his dealings, and has many true friends in his community.



PHILIP WOOLLARD, a successful farmer living in the southeast quarter of section 3, township 34, range 18, in Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Cambridgeshire, England. He was born in 1843, and is a son of Henry and Keziah (Hopkins) Woollard.

Henry Woollard was born in England, and was a butcher, by trade. He married Keziah Hopkins, who was also born in England, and they reared three children: Philip; Henry; and Elizabeth; the two last named live in England.

When Philip Woollard was twenty-one years old, he came to the United States. He landed in Canada, and from there went direct to Nebraska, where he lived for six months. He then went to New York, and lived in vari-



ous places in the eastern part of that state for a period of five years. In 1867 Mr. Woollard located in Jackson county, Illinois, where he leased a farm, on which he lived for five years. He then removed to Labette county in 1881, and staid in Mound Valley township for three months. He then rented a farm in Howard township for two years, and settled on his present farm in 1884. Mr. Woollard has a thorough knowledge of farming matters, and his farm is one of the best in the township.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Margaret J. Bradley, *nee* Steele, who was born in Tennessee, in 1845. They are the parents of four children, namely: Philip; Henry; Elti; and M. J.

Mr. Woollard is an independent in politics. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church.



H. STUART, a highly respected farmer of Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, has a well improved farm in section 4, township 34, range 18. He was born in Barre, New York, February 28, 1837, and is a son of Albert and Helen (Spencer) Stuart.

Albert Stuart was born in New York, in 1805. He was a sailor on the Great Lakes early in life, and later followed the occupation of a farmer. He married Helen Spencer, who was born in New York. They reared one child, C. H., the subject of this sketch.

C. H. Stuart removed to Ohio when a youth. His father farmed several years in that state. When nineteen years old, the son went to Illinois, where he enlisted, in 1861, in Company K, 42d Reg., Ill. Vol. Inf. He saw hard service throughout the war, and took

part in the battle of Stone River, where he was under fire for six days. He was in all the engagements in which his company and regiment participated. He received an honorable discharge from the army, at Atlanta, Georgia. He then returned to Illinois, and left that state, for Kansas, May 4, 1870. Three other men accompanied him (among them being Ed. Rosboro, now deceased, of Elm Grove township), and the trip was made by wagon. Mr. Stuart located on his present home farm, in 1870, and after building a cabin, 14 by 18 feet in size, broke eight acres of ground, and began his career as a farmer in Labette county. He has been highly successful, and has a large and well improved farm. Lately he has erected a spacious, two-story, frame house, which adds greatly to the general appearance of his property. Mr. Stuart carries on general farming.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with J. Maria McClellan, who was born in New York. They have reared two children, namely: Alexander T., who enlisted in the late war, in Company I, 13th Reg., U. S. Vol. Inf.; and Olive E. F. Mr. Stuart is a member of the Populist party. He belongs to Valeda Camp, No. 150, Anti-Horse-thief Association; to the Masonic order, Mound Valley Lodge, No. 218; and to the G. A. R. Post, of Mound Valley. Mr. Stuart is well known in Labette county, where he has many friends.



M. PITT, a well-to-do and influential farmer of Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, has been located in this county since 1869, and is one of its most progressive citizens. He was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, in 1844, and is a son of D. M. and Amanda (Rhoades) Pitt.

D. M. Pitt was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, and was a farmer by occupation. His union with Amanda Rhoades resulted in the birth of three children, as follows: Elizabeth (Hill); S. M.; and Amanda.

S. M. Pitt went to Missouri with his parents in 1851, and located in Adair county, where he lived for the following fourteen years. In 1869 he came to Kansas, by wagon, the trip consuming a period of six weeks. He arrived in Labette county in February, 1869, and took up a claim since owned by him in section 29, township 33, range 18, in Canada township. He built a cabin 12 by 14 feet, in size, and improved his claim. He now owns an entire section of land,—the west half of section 29, and the east half of section 30. He carries on farming in a modern manner, and has one of the best improved farms in the township.

S. M. Pitt was united in marriage with Miss N. L. Steele, who was born in Tennessee, in 1860, and they are parents of six children: Laura; Thomas; Estella; Cora; Pearl; and James. Mrs. Pitt met with a sad accident in a runaway, which resulted in her death, in 1897. Mr. Pitt is a Populist, in politics, and is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. The family adheres to the doctrines of the M. E. church.

**B**OWEN C. HEATH. This gentleman is numbered among the many prominent agriculturists of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas. He resides in the northeast quarter of section 25, township 34, range 18. Mr. Heath was born in Jennings county, Indiana, in 1864, and is a son of B. C. and Sarah (Neal) Heath.

Bowen C. Heath, Sr., was born in Indiana. He married Sarah Neal, who was a native of Kentucky, and their children were: John; Maggie; Henry; Edward; Mattie; James; and Bowen C., the subject of this sketch.

Bowen C. Heath was reared and educated in his native state, where he lived until he located in Kansas. He came to Labette county, in 1892, and settled on his present farm. He has been a farmer all his life, and consequently his training has made him thoroughly conversant with all matters pertaining to the tilling of the soil. He is a thrifty and energetic worker, and keeps his farm in fine condition.

Mr. Heath was united in marriage with Addie Vawter, who was born in Jennings county, Indiana, in 1865. They have reared the following children, namely: William; Sarah; Roy; Ruth; and Fern.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the Democratic party. He belongs to the M. W. of A., Edna Camp, No. 1636; and to Edna Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 438. Religiously, Mr. Heath and his family are attendants of the Methodist church.

**A**MASA FOX is a prominent farmer of Hackberry township, Labette county, Kansas, who has been located in the southwest quarter of section 35, township 34, range 20, almost continuously since 1869. He was born in Wayne county, Michigan, in 1828, and is a son of A. Fox.

A. Fox was a sailor and ran on the first steamboat on Lake Erie. He married Sibyl Bell, who was born in Vermont, and they reared five children. Those living are: Daniel, who resides in Chetopa, Kansas; and Amasa.

Amasa Fox lived in Wayne county, Michigan, until he was twenty-three years of age, and then located in Kane county, Illinois. There he was engaged in farming until 1869, when, accompanied by his wife, he journeyed to Labette county, Kansas, by wagon,—the trip consuming four weeks. He located in the southwest quarter of section 35, township 34, range 20, in Hackberry township, which has since been his home with the exception of about three years spent in Washington. He was actively engaged in farming for many years, but at the present time rents his land. He was a very successful business man and laid by a handsome competency.

Mr. Fox was united in matrimony with Martha Rumsey, who was born in Delaware county, New York, in 1834, and is a daughter of E. S. Rumsey, who was born in New York and was a farmer by occupation. Mr. Rumsey married Chloe Du Bois, also a native of New York, and they reared 20 children. Those now living are: Annis; Margaret; Ebenezer; James; Martha; Mr. Fox's wife, Emma; and Harrison. Mr. and Mrs. Fox have had seven children: Luella, deceased; Francis I.; Charles E.; Daniel W., deceased; Katie; Ernest; and Lue. In politics, Mr. Fox is independent. He and his wife are Methodists.

**J.** SMILEY, deceased, was a prominent resident of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, and lived in the northwest quarter of section 19, township 34, range 18. He was born in Warren county, Indiana, in 1843, and his death occurred in Labette county, March 26, 1892.

L. J. Smiley was reared and schooled in his native county. He remained in the state of

Indiana until he removed to Labette county, which was in March, 1883. He located on the farm in section 19, township 34, range 18, and since his death it has been successfully managed by his wife, who carries on general farming. Mr. Smiley was a man of honest and upright principles, and his loss was deeply felt in the community. He married Mary E. Lemming, who was born in Warren county, Indiana, in 1851. She is a daughter of John and Isabelle (Waggaman) Lemming. John Lemming was born in Indiana, in 1827, and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. He married Isabelle Waggaman, who was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1830. They reared two children: Charles and Mary E.

Mr. and Mrs. Smiley were the parents of 11 children. Those living are: Anna Belle; Clara; Mary; Myrtle; Lulu; Ida; Grace; and John, who assists his mother in farming. Mrs. Smiley is a woman of many estimable qualities, and is a kind and charitable neighbor. The family favor the United Brethren church in their religious convictions.

**J.** OHN W. MASON, a highly respected farmer living in the southeast quarter of section 25, township 34, range 18, in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Dearborn county, Indiana. He was born in 1835, and is a son of Nicholas and Mary (Overly) Mason.

Nicholas Mason was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and followed the occupation of a farmer. He wedded Mary Overly, who was also born in Pennsylvania. After their marriage they went to Indiana, in the fall of 1819. They reared the following

children, namely: Isaac E., Nicholas; Joseph; Margaret; Lydia; and John W., the subject of this sketch.

John W. Mason was reared and schooled in his native state, and while there learned the trade of a stone-mason, which he followed most of the time during his residence in Indiana. He removed to Labette county, Kansas, November 8, 1882, and located in Edna, where he lived two years. He then settled in Canada township and lived there six years. He bought his present farm in 1892, and has followed farming on that place ever since. He is well known and highly esteemed as one of the best farmers in the township. A man of upright principles, he treats all his fellow men honestly and considerately,—dealing with all in a straightforward manner.

Mr. Mason was united in marriage with Margaret Weslow, who was born in Germany, in 1834. They have been blessed with seven children, namely: Harman, deceased; Joseph, who lives at home; Charles; Eugene E.; Mary; Anna; and Cora.

Mr. Mason has always voted the Democratic ticket, and takes an active interest in local politics, although he has never aspired to office. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

**J**ACOB BROWN, a veteran of the Civil War, and a well known farmer of Canada township, Labette county, Kansas, resides in the southeast quarter of section 10, township 34, range 18. He was born in Jackson county, Indiana, in 1832, and is a son of Joseph Brown.

Joseph Brown was born in Virginia, and was a cabinetmaker by trade. He married Elizabeth Phisler, who was a native of Indi-

ana, and they reared 10 children, Jacob being the only one now living.

Jacob Brown was reared and schooled in his native state. He enlisted in 1862, in Company K, 67th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served six months. He was discharged at the end of that time on account of sickness. He has never regained his health since then. In the winter of 1882 Mr. Brown removed to Labette county, Kansas, and located on his present home farm in Canada township. In 1892 he built a six-room, two-story frame house, which has added greatly to the appearance of his home. He carries on general farming and is very successful. He is an honest man, with good principles, and is held in high esteem by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Brown was married to Elizabeth Hancock, who was born in Jackson county, Indiana, in 1844. To them have been born five children, namely: Lorinda, who married Otis Koons, a farmer in Labette county; Charles and A. J., who are farmers in Canada township; E. B., who lives at home; and H. H., who is farming in Canada township. Politically, Mr. Brown is a Republican. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**R**B. LOWE, a well known resident of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, is living in the northeast quarter of section 25, township 34, range 17. He has lived on that farm since 1881. Mr. Lowe was born in Grimes county, Texas, in 1839, and is a son of Nellie Grantham, who was born in Georgia. She is now ninety-eight years old, is hale and hearty, and is living with the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Lowe lived in Texas for a number of years, and while there followed farming. He

decided to try his fortune in Kansas, and accordingly, set out for that destination, with but \$400 in his possession. He is now worth many times that amount, but this end has been reached only through hard work and much economy. Mr. Lowe bought 80 acres of land in Howard township, in the northeast quarter of section 25, township 34, range 17, and this he keeps finely improved. He has been very successful since locating in Kansas, and each year finds an increase in his profits. He built his present house in 1892, and has set out a good orchard. He carries on general farming.

Mr. Lowe married Maria Anderson, who died in 1885. They reared: William J.; Samuel; Granville; Monroe; Mathew; Mary E.; Eliza; and six others, who died young. Mr. Lowe married, secondly, Mary C. Scott, who was born in Texas in 1862. She came to Kansas in 1869.

Mr. Lowe is a Republican in politics. He belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge, No. 835, of Coffeyville; and is a member of the Anti-Horse thief Association, Valeda Camp, No. 150. Religiously, he is a member of the Baptist church.

**P**ETER M. NEVIUS, living in section 20, township 34, range 18, in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, is a well known farmer in this section, and came to this county in 1875. He was born in Bureau county, Illinois, in 1837, and is a son of David and Elizabeth (Griner) Nevius.

David Nevius was born in New Jersey in 1797, and was a carpenter by trade. He married Elizabeth Griner, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1801, and they reared the follow-

ing children: Garret, deceased; G. G., who is a retired farmer in Kansas; Catherine, deceased; William H., who is a carpenter in Iowa; Peter M.; Brown, deceased; and Elias, deceased.

Peter M. Nevius spent his early life in Illinois, and in 1865 removed to Kansas, and located in Linn county, where he farmed for a period of ten years. In 1875 he moved to Labette county, and on March 1, 1876, bought his present home farm. He has made extensive improvements on the place, and has lived there ever since. Mr. Nevius has a thorough knowledge of farming, and is a man of sound judgment and much executive ability. He has taken great interest in his work, and his home presents a neat, well-kept appearance.

Mr. Nevius was united in marriage with Martha Robinson, in 1858. She died in 1867. They reared two children: J. D., who is a clerk in one of the government departments at Washington, District of Columbia; and James, who resides in Edna, Kansas, and is a stone mason by trade. Mr. Nevius married, secondly, Lydia Brock, who was born in Iowa. Four children have been the result of this union, whose names are: Mabel; Nellie; Winona; and Percy D. Mr. Nevius is a Republican in politics. He belongs to the Seventh Day Adventists' church.


**G**EORGE F. SCHMIDT, who has been a resident of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, since 1882, is one of its best known farmers. He was born in Noble county, Indiana, in 1864, and is a son of F. P. and Jenette (Walker) Schmidt.

F. P. Schmidt was a native of Germany.

and immigrated to the United States when fourteen years old. He located in Indiana, where he became a farmer. He married Jennette Walker, who was born in Indiana, and they reared but one child, who is the subject of this sketch. Mr. Schmidt moved with his son to Labette county, and died here February 10, 1890. Mrs. Schmidt makes her home on the farm with her son.

George F. Schmidt was reared and schooled in Illinois. He removed from his native county to Ford county, Illinois, and later to Clay county; he lived in that state nine years. October 19, 1882, in company with his parents, he located in the west half of the northwest quarter of section 25, township 34, range 18, in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas. He carries on general farming and has been very successful. His farm is well improved, and shows the thrift and energy of its owner.

Mr. Schmidt was married to Ellen Thomas, who died in 1894. He married, secondly, Mrs. Nevada Ivory, who was born in Iowa, in 1865. They have one child,—Errett. Mr. Schmidt is a Republican in his political affiliations. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association. He attends the Methodist church. He has many warm friends in the county, and is a progressive and well informed citizen.


 H. MAHAN. Prominent in agricultural circles in Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name appears at the opening of these lines. He resides in Canada township, in the northeast quarter of section 11, township 34, range 17. Mr. Mahan was born in Allegany county,

New York, in 1852, and is a son of S. W. and Sarah (Cranble) Mahan. His parents reared four children: W. H.; V. D.; Frank, deceased; and E. H., the subject of this sketch.

E. H. Mahan received his early mental training in his native county. When he was twenty years old he went to Michigan, where he ran an engine for five years. In 1875, he went to Texas, and that state was his home until his final removal to Kansas. He located in Howard township, Labette county, in 1889, where he carried on general farming and threshing for two years. He then bought his present farm in Canada township. He carries on general farming and threshing. He is now having erected an eight-room, brick house, of two stories. His farm is well improved, and presents an attractive appearance, to which the new house will add greatly.

Mr. Mahan was united in marriage with Miss H. A. Ellwood, whose death took place in 1879. He next married Miss H. A. DeVoss, who was born in Marion county, Ohio, in 1856, and they have six children, namely: Ernest; Irene; Elmer; J.; P. C.; and Esther.

In politics Mr. Mahan is a Republican, and, while he does not aspire to office, he takes a deep interest in local affairs. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, Coffeyville lodge. He is also a member of the Odd Fellows lodge, of Liberty. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Mahan is well known in Labette county, and is a loyal and upright citizen.

 E. FITCH. Among the many successful farmers living in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He is living in section 29, township



34, range 18, where he carries on general farming. Mr. Fitch was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, in 1848, and is a son of Nathan and Mary (Fitzgerald) Fitch.

Nathan Fitch was born in Kentucky, and was a farmer during all his active life. He married Mary Fitzgerald, who was also a native of Kentucky, and to them were born: Samuel H., who is a farmer in Cass county, Missouri; John, of Clay county, Missouri; Eveline, who lives in Kentucky; Lavina, who lives in Missouri; S. E.; and David, Robert and Mary, deceased.

S. E. Fitch was reared and schooled in his native state. He grew to manhood there, and followed the occupation of a farmer. When he was thirty-five years old he removed to Kansas, and in 1885 settled in Labette county. He bought his present farm in Howard township in 1889, and there has carried on farming ever since. Mr. Fitch is well known in agricultural circles in Howard township, and is one of the best farmers in that vicinity.

Mr. Fitch married Fannie Wallingford, who was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, in 1850, and they have reared four children: Charles, who lives in Valeda, Kansas; Lulu F.; Mary; and Walter.

In politics, Mr. Fitch is a Populist. He has served as trustee of the township for two terms, and has been a member of the school board for a number of years. He is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. The family belong to the Methodist church.

township. He located there in the fall of 1900. Mr. Koons was born September 30, 1858, in Clark county, Indiana, and is a son of David S. and Sarah (Nugent) Koons.

David S. Koons was born in Indiana, in 1832, and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. He died March 20, 1900. He married Sarah Nugent, who was born in Clark county, Indiana, in 1830, and they reared the following children: Otis C.; Eva; Maggie, deceased; Isaac M.; and Bertie C.

Otis C. Koons received his mental training in the common schools of his native county. He followed farming while there until he reached the age of twenty-two years, when he removed to Labette county, Kansas. In the spring of 1881 he located in the southeast quarter of section 14, township 34, range 18, in Canada township, where he lived for sixteen years. He moved to the town of Edna in 1897, and three years later located on his present farm in Howard township. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and rents a part of his land.

Mr. Koons was united in marriage with Lorinda Brown, a daughter of Jacob Brown, who is a prominent farmer of Labette county. She was born in Jackson county, Indiana, February 10, 1861.

Mr. Koons is a Republican, in politics. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist church. He is a public spirited man, and is highly spoken of by all his friends and fellow citizens.

**O**TIS C. KOONS. Among the well known and highly respected farmers of Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He is living in the east half of section 23, township 34, range 18, in Howard


**A**S. DRESSER, who has been located in Labette county, Kansas, since 1873, is a prominent farmer of Howard township. He was born in Ohio, in 1842, and is a son of Alanson and R. (Sawyer) Dresser.

Manson Dresser was born in New York State and followed the trade of a millwright. He married Miss R. Sawyer, also a native of New York, and they reared three children, as follows: A. S.; Lucia; and Adelia.

A. S. Dresser lived in Illinois until he was nine years old. He was then taken by his parents back to Ohio, where he lived until he reached the age of sixteen years. He spent the following three years at Flint, Michigan, after which he moved to Iowa. Returning to Michigan, in 1865, he spent three years there, and then went to the oil fields of Pennsylvania. He came to Kansas in 1870, and lived one year at Lawrence. He was afterward located, until 1871, at Parsons and Coffeyville, the latter town having at that time but two or three houses. He came to Labette county in the spring of 1873, and settled on his present farm in Howard township, which has since been his home. His farm was wholly unimproved, no ground having been broken, and he moved the first house on the premises, from Parker, a distance of 10 miles. He made many improvements on the farm, and engaged in general farming and stock raising with marked success. He is an enterprising and progressive citizen, and has hosts of friends throughout this part of the county.

Mr. Dresser was united in marriage with Miss A. Dye, a daughter of R. and P. (Rice) Dye. Her father followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. Mrs. Dresser was born in Genesee county, Michigan, in 1849, and was one of 10 children, as follows: George; William; Charles; Minerva; Edward; Oliver; Almeda; Alfred; Sarah; and Hattie. Mr. and Mrs. Dresser have 10 children, namely: Guy; R. Dallas; Lucia R.; Frank T.; Herbert W.; Lillian M.; Hattie A.; Edith G.; Rennie

B.; and Bayard. Mr. Dresser is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party.

ARRY H. MITCHELL, justice of the peace in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, resides in section 8, township 35, range 18. He was born in Polk county, Iowa, August 8, 1869, and is a son of Thomas and Ann C. (Mattern) Mitchell.

Thomas Mitchell was born in Claremont, New Hampshire, in 1816. He died July 15, 1894, at Mitchellville, Iowa. He was a Republican, in politics. Mr. Mitchell married Ann C. Mattern, who was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. They reared four children: Harry H.; John; Maud; and Alice, deceased.

Harry H. Mitchell, whose name opens these lines, lived in his native county until he removed to Kansas. He had farmed with his father in Iowa, and after moving to Kansas, continued in the same occupation. He settled in Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, on his present farm, in 1896. There he carried on general farming, and has been one of the most influential men in the township. He is a man of good business ability, and his services are always in demand when any public enterprise is in progress.

Mr. Mitchell was united in marriage with Agnes Mullenix, who was born in Illinois, in 1878. Mr. Mitchell is a Republican, in politics, and takes an active interest in local affairs. He is justice of the peace of Howard township, and fills the office with much credit to himself and satisfaction to his fellow citizens. He is a member of Crystal Lodge, No. 313, A. F. & A. M., of Mitchellville, Iowa;

and Modern Woodmen of America, Valeda Lodge, No. 7511,—holding the office of banker of his lodge. He is president of the Anti-Horse Thief Association, Lodge No. 150. Mr. Mitchell is a very popular man, and is highly esteemed in Labette county.

---

**D**ANIEL LAUGHLIN,\* one of the leading agriculturists of Mount Pleasant township, Labette county, Kansas, is a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was born in 1838. He is a son of William and Sarah (Nisbett) Laughlin.

William Laughlin was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1808, and died in Clay county, Indiana, in 1885. He married Sarah Nisbett, who was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, and died in Clay county, Indiana, in 1866. They reared the following children, namely: Margaret (Teril), of Labette county; Daniel, the subject of this sketch; James, deceased; and Eli E., of Labette county.

Daniel Laughlin lived in the state of Pennsylvania until he was fourteen years old, when he moved to Clay county, Indiana, with his parents. In 1861 he went to South Park, Colorado, and in 1862 enlisted in Company M, 1st Reg., N. M. Vol. Cav. He was ambushed and wounded by the Indians at Fort Wingate, New Mexico, and was mustered out at Fort Sumner, New Mexico, in 1863. He then returned to Kansas, where he settled on a farm in Johnson county, and in 1869 located in Labette county, where he now resides. He is living in section 22, Mount Pleasant township, where he carries on farming and stock raising extensively. He thoroughly understands the

tilling of the soil, and is a thrifty and conscientious worker.

Mr. Laughlin was united in marriage with Hannah Smith, a daughter of William Smith. She was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, in 1850. William Smith was born in 1818, and his death occurred in Kansas City, Kansas, in 1900. Mrs. Smith, who was a Miss Wheller, was born in Ohio, in 1820, and her death occurred in 1852. Mr. Laughlin and his wife have been blessed with five children, namely: Jessie, deceased; Clifford, of Labette county; William, of Kansas City, Missouri; and Effie and Goldie, of Labette county.

Mr. Laughlin has been treasurer of Mount Pleasant township for four terms. He is a public spirited citizen, and is highly respected throughout the community.

---

**P**ROF. H. W. TODD,\* the efficient superintendent of the Oswego schools, is regarded as one of the most intellectual men in the county. He holds a very responsible position, which he fills with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the community in which he resides. Prof. Todd was born in Cook county, Illinois, in 1869, and is a son of Edward P. Todd.

Prof. Todd's grandfather on the paternal side was Silas Todd. He was a native of Connecticut. Edward P. Todd was born near New York City. He was reared and schooled in Galena, Illinois, to which city his parents moved when he was a child. During his active career he followed farming, and lived at various places, principally in Illinois. In 1874 he settled permanently in Montgomery county, Kansas, in the town of Independence, and there he now resides. He married Jane

Lemon, who was a native of Niagara, Canada. They reared the following children: Frank, a farmer in Montgomery county, Kansas; Howard, deceased; H. W., the subject of this sketch; and Elsie. Mr. Todd is a Republican, in politics, and has served in various local offices.

H. W. Todd, the subject of this biography, received his primary education in Independence, Kansas, and during the years 1888, 1889 and 1890, attended the Kansas State Normal School at Emporia. He graduated from the Valparaiso Normal College, of Valparaiso, Indiana, in 1892. He began teaching in Montgomery county, Kansas, although he had taught somewhat before his graduation. He taught three and a half years at Coffeyville, and was principal of the schools in Edna, Kansas, for two years. In 1897 Prof. Todd became principal of the Oswego schools, and in 1899 was made superintendent of the city schools, and is serving in that capacity at the present date.

Prof. Todd was united in marriage with Gertrude Hilman, in 1890. Mrs. Todd was born in Edna, Kansas. They have one child, —Hubert. Prof. Todd is a member of the Kansas State Teachers' Association. Fraternally, he belongs to the Woodmen of the World. Politically, he is a Republican.

**N**ATHANIEL D. TOWER,\* a prominent farmer and stock raiser of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, takes an intelligent interest in the leading questions of the day, and has deeply at heart the welfare of his section of the Sunflower State. Mr. Tower was born in Chenango county, New York, in 1839, and is a son of

Loammi and Elizabeth (Townsend) Tower. Loammi Tower, who was by occupation a farmer, was born in Vermont, and his wife was a native of the Empire State. Seven children comprised the parental family, as follows: Polly (Shoe), of Illinois; Nathaniel D., the subject of these lines; Sarah (Fore), of Van Wert county, Ohio; Samuel; Mary and Matilda, who are deceased; and Timothy, who was killed in an engagement of the Civil War. Nathaniel D. Tower's parents removed to Ohio when he was five years old, and there he was educated in the public schools, and was prepared for the sober duties of life. In 1857, the family removed to Illinois, where, in Sangamon county, they continued to reside for a number of years, during which period Nathaniel followed carpenter work. In 1865, he left Illinois, traveled overland to Kansas, in company with Samuel Dunham, and located in Labette county. The following year (1866), he took up a claim in section 30, Montana township, having made proper entry of it at Humboldt, Kansas, where the nearest land office was located.

Mr. Tower has continued to reside upon this farm ever since, and has carried on general farming and stock raising. Quite recently, in 1899, his present large, substantial residence, a two-story frame, with seven rooms, was erected, and the whole place was otherwise improved and modernized. Mr. Tower was joined in marriage with Miss R. Whitehead, who was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, in 1841. Ten children blessed their union. Of this interesting family, the eldest two, Daniel and George, are farmers in the state of Missouri. Charles, the next one, is deceased. Ruth M., the eldest daughter, is now Mrs. Carns, of Oswego, Kansas. Martin, the next in order, is an employee of the Colorado and

Midland Railroad and resides in Colorado City, Colorado. Nora, the second daughter, is now Mrs. Whelen, of Denison, Texas. Herbert, the next son, assists in cultivating the home farm. Bryan is a fireman on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, and resides at Denison, Texas. Grover is an assistant on the farm, while Allen N., the youngest son, resides in the Indian Territory.

Mr. Tower is closely allied with the Populist party in Kansas, and has served his party in various ways. He served one term as treasurer of Montana township, and was, for several years, on the school board, of which he was also treasurer. He is a prominent member of the Anti-Horsethief Association, Camp No. 26, and belongs to Labette Lodge, No. 488, I. O. O. F., and the Sons and Daughters of Justice, also of Labette. In religious matters, he was reared a Baptist, and strongly adheres to the faith of that denomination. He ranks among the most prominent citizens of Montana township, and his success in life is most gratifying to his friends and his family.



T. BAKER,\* a sturdy and prosperous farmer of Labette township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in Fountain county, Indiana, in 1831, and is a son of O. and A. (Timmana) Baker. His father was born in Virginia, and his mother first saw the light of day in Indiana. Thirteen children composed the parental family, as follows: Allen F.; A. S.; M. A.; M. T.; Isaac; E. J.; M. J.; M. E.; J. H.; G. W.; Taylor; Sarah; and M. G.

Our subject farmed in his native state until he was twenty-two years old, when he moved to Iowa, and resided there until 1860.

He then came to Kansas, where he spent eleven months, after which he returned to Indiana, and followed farming until 1883. His visit to Kansas was not, however, devoid of good results. There was a charm about this country which Mr. Baker could not resist; he accordingly returned in 1883, and located on his present farm, in the southwest quarter of section 27, Labette township. There he has followed general farming and is largely interested in fruit growing,—having a fine, young orchard of 1,000 apple trees.

Mr. Baker married Miss B. L. Bonebrake, who was born in Indiana, in 1837, and is a daughter of D. and Catherine (Cohen) Bonebrake. Her father was born in Ohio, and her mother, in Virginia. Eleven children made up the Bonebrake family, namely: Eli, Simon, Wesley, Harry, John, E. A., C., Stephen, Dennis, B. L., and E.

Mr. Baker and his wife were blessed with 12 children: David, Alfred, C. A., Clara, and E., all of whom are deceased; J. O., who is a farmer, and Catherine, both of whom reside in Allen county, Kansas; Harry, who lives in the Indian Territory, and is a barber by trade; J., who married A. Bentz, a farmer,—they reside four miles east of Parsons, Kansas; and Wilford, Joseph, and Eddie, who live at home. In his political belief, Mr. Baker is a Populist; he is also a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association. He and his family belong to the United Brethren church.



HARVEY W. LOWE,\* a prominent young business man of Altamont, Labette county, Kansas, engaged in the hardware business, is one of the rising young men of that city. He is actively

interested in anything that is for the good of the people who reside in that community. He is a man of honor and integrity, and through his honesty in dealings with his patrons he has won the confidence and respect of all who are associated with him. Mr. Lowe was born in McDonald county, Missouri, in 1873, and is a son of John W. and Fanny (Ransom) Lowe.

John W. Lowe was born in Virginia, in 1837. In 1874, he moved with his family to McDonald county, Missouri, where he was engaged in the hardware business for four years. In 1878, he removed to Neosho county, Kansas, where he settled on a farm, and now resides there, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married Fanny Ransom, who was born in 1840, in White county, Arkansas. They reared the following children, namely: Levi, Bethel and Joel, of Neosho county, Kansas; Charles and Lizzie, deceased; and Harvey W., the subject of this sketch.

Harvey W. Lowe, the subject of this sketch, was five years old when his parents moved to Neosho county, and there he received his mental training. He assisted his father in farming until September, 1900, when he moved to Altamont, Labette county, and engaged in the hardware business. He has a large, well stocked store, and is thoroughly conversant with the business. Mr. Lowe was united in marriage with Maude Clemens, who was born in Neosho county, Kansas, in 1881. She is a daughter of Newton Clemens, who was born in Illinois, in 1851. The children comprising Mr. Clemens' family are: Dressie (Oleson), Isaac and Noble, all of Neosho county; Maude, the wife of Mr. Lowe; and Clara; Charles; and George, of Neosho county. Mr. Clemens is also a resident of Neosho county.

Mr. Lowe and his wife are the parents of

one child,—Mark. Like his father, who was a justice of the peace in Neosho county for ten years, Mr. Lowe is a staunch Republican. Being a young man, he has the prospects of a very good future before him, and as he is a man of strength of character and determination, his success seems assured.




**CHARLES MURRAY,\*** one of the most prosperous farmers of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, is located in sections 32 and 33, and owns 100 acres of land.

Mr. Murray was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1846, but was reared in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he lived until the Civil War. He enlisted in Company K, 21st Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., in 1863, and was in the service until January 19, 1866, under Col. B. F. Hays. After the close of the war, he located in Hendricks county, Indiana, and resided there until he came to Kansas in 1869, engaging in agricultural pursuits. He came to this State in a wagon, the journey consuming thirty days. He resided in Labette county a period of four years, and then returned to his former home in Indiana, where he lived on his old farm until 1885. In that year, he again came to Labette county, Kansas, and located upon his present farm of 100 acres in sections 32 and 33, Montana township. He built his present comfortable home in 1885. His place is neat and attractive in appearance, and he engages in diversified farming.

Mr. Murray was united in marriage with Mary E. Duncan, who was born in Morgan county, Indiana, in 1848, and they have reared three children, as follows: Lulu (Peck), of Clayton, Indiana, who has one daughter, Ma-



tilda; Clarence, who served in Company A, 2d Reg., Mo. Vol. Inf., during the Spanish-American War, and was killed on April 7, 1901, by a railroad train; Daisy (Cornish), of Neosho, Missouri, who has two children,—Earl and Hester; and Bessie, who still remains at home. Mr. Murray is a Republican in politics. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic. Religiously, he and his family are members of the Christian church.


AMUEL DUNHAM,\* a prominent and representative farmer of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, was born near Harper's Ferry, Berkeley county, West Virginia, April 8, 1821. His parents were Hiram and Mary (Ganner) Dunham, both natives of New Jersey. They belonged to that sturdy class of citizens, who have done so much to develop the farming interests and have helped to place the United States in the front rank of agricultural nations.

Samuel Dunham left home when he was nine years old, and moved with his parents to Christian county, Illinois. In 1865, he came to Labette county, Kansas, and secured a homestead claim in Montana township, entering it at the land office in Humboldt; on this property he has lived, and has improved and developed it to its present high state of cultivation. Mr. Dunham has a keen appreciation of the fact that our farming population is the very bone and sinew of the nation, and he has shaped his daily life with the aim always in view of being of the utmost value to himself, his neighbors, and his country.

Mr. Dunham was the eldest in a family of three children. He has been twice married.

His first wife was Mary Jane Harry, who is deceased. A few years after the death of his first wife, he married his present wife, who was Mary Slunan, a native of Marion county, Indiana. She was born in 1845. Ten children were the result of this union, as follows: A. J., who is at home; Mary; Lano, now Mrs. Barkis, living in Montana township, Labette county, Kansas; E. D. and Walter, who are at home; Lee, who resides in Montana township; Robert and Harvey, who are at home; Albert and Ida, deceased.

Mr. Dunham is a Democrat, but liberal in his opinion on all subjects which draw out party discussion. He has served as a member of the school board in his township, and is a member of the Anti-Horsethief Association.

RS. S. E. THURBER,\* a highly respected lady of Parsons, Kansas, is the widow of the late Samuel L. Thurber, for many years a prominent railroad engineer on the "Katy" road, and whose death took place, as the result of an accident, in 1894.

Samuel L. Thurber was born in Lower Ireland, Province of Quebec, Canada. He was a son of Samuel J., Sr., and Margaret (Lee) Thurber, the latter being a relative of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Mr. Thurber had several brothers and sisters, all Canadians by birth, some of whom are still living, and reside in Castle Bar, Lower Ireland, and at various places in the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. Thurber was reared and schooled in Canada, where he remained until he attained his majority. He then started out to make his own way in life, and engaged in agricultural pursuits in both Vermont and Massachu-

setts, until some time in the "sixties." He then conceived the idea of going west and growing up with the country. He came to Kansas, and assisted in the construction of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway. He visited the present site of Parsons before such a city was even thought of.

About 1869 or 1870, he returned east as far as Quincy, Illinois, where he remained until 1871. Returning at that date to Sedalia, Missouri, he reentered the service of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, where the remainder of his life was spent. In the early morning of January 20, 1893, while serving in the capacity of passenger engineer, the accident occurred which ultimately caused his death, which took place October 1, 1894. He was traveling engineer for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway a number of years. He was highly respected and esteemed by all who know him, and his unfortunate demise was generally mourned. Fraternally, he was a Mason and Knight Templar; a member of the I. O. O. F.; Knights of Pythias; and B. of L. E. In politics, he was a Republican. He was reared in the Episcopal faith, but later in life both he and Mrs. Thurber united with the Presbyterian church.

Mrs. S. E. Thurber, the subject of this brief biography, was born near Fairfield, Iowa, in 1856. She is a daughter of Alexander and Susan Cox. Her mother died when the subject hereof was quite young, and she was reared by her father and step-mother, until she reached the age of fourteen or fifteen years. She then moved to Parsons, Kansas, and made her home with J. J. Pierson, a relative, and a wholesale grocer of that city. Mr. Pierson still resides on Stevens avenue, and Mrs. Thurber has resided on that street since 1873.

In 1879, the subject of this sketch was

united in marriage with Samuel J. Thurber. Two children were born to them, Clyde J. and Mabel. The former, who is nineteen years old, is shipping clerk for J. J. Pierson, and is boarding at home. Mabel is sixteen years of age, and is attending the high school. Mrs. Thurber resides in a comfortable residence at No. 1703 Stevens avenue. She is a prominent club woman of Parsons, being a member of the Atheneum Women's Club. For the past six years, she has also been a member of the Parsons Reading Circle. She is a general favorite in society, and is esteemed for her many good qualities.



RS. ELIZABETH STEWART,\* widow of Henry J. Stewart, has been a resident of Labette county, Kansas, since 1866, and has been located on her farm in section 11, Montana township, during this time.

Mrs. Stewart was born in Missouri along the Mississippi river, March 23, 1831, and is a daughter of Isaac and B. (Patterson) Flynn. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and was the father of the following children: William; Isaac; John; Simpson; Elizabeth, the subject of this personal history; Martha and Rachel, twins; E. A.; and P.

Elizabeth Flynn was united in marriage with Henry J. Stewart, who was born March 19, 1829. They came to Kansas in 1866 by wagon from Illinois, the trip consuming one month's time. They located on the present family homestead in section 11, Montana township, Labette county, and on this Mr. Stewart made many improvements, converting it into one of the finest farms in the section in which he lived. The claim was entered at Humboldt, Kansas. He continued to reside upon this

property until his death in 1880. He was a Republican in politics, and served on the school board of his township a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart became the parents of the following children: Miles; Charles; Clark; Allen; Layman, Nora; Ambrosia and B. Miles and Charles are farmers in Kansas; Clark is a resident of Missouri; Allen lives in Labette county, Kansas; Layman, who conducts the affairs of the farm for his mother, married Miss L. Cox, who was born near Westfield, Illinois. He is a Republican, in politics, and is serving his third term as treasurer of Montana township. Nora married a Mr. Stewart, and resides at McCune, Kansas; Ambrosia is the wife of a Mr. Dunn. Religiously, Mrs. Stewart is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. She is a woman possessed of many admirable traits of character, and enjoys the respect and esteem of all with whom she is acquainted.



WILLIAM McCrum,\* a successful farmer residing in section 14, township 31, range 17, in Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, was born in De Kalb county, Indiana, in 1842. He is a son of James and Mary Ann (Cughan) McCrum.

James McCrum was of Irish descent, and came to Canada, when he was twenty years old. Subsequently, he moved to Indiana, where he died some years later. His wife was also born in Ireland, and her death occurred in Indiana. They had seven children, two of whom are deceased. One of their sons, John, lives in Cherryvale; another son lives in Indiana, and Sarah, a daughter, lives in Colorado.

William McCrum, whose name heads this sketch, was reared and schooled in Indiana, where he remained until he reached the age of twenty years. He enlisted in Company D, 74th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served from July, 1862, until June, 1865. He received an honorable discharge, as a noncommissioned officer, in Indiana. After he left the army, he engaged in farming in Indiana, where he married. April 8, 1871, Mr. McCrum removed to Osage township, Labette county, Kansas, and settled on his present farm in section 14. This claim had been bought and improved by another man, and Mr. McCrum purchased improvements in February, 1871. The house, which was 14 by 16 feet, in size, was of walnut lumber; it still stands on the farm, and is used as an outbuilding. With a few additions made to it, the family occupied this house until 1895, when Mr. McCrum built a comfortable home, 28 feet square, with a 10-by-18-foot addition. The old stable has been replaced by one 40 by 56 feet, in dimensions, and 16 feet to the square, which was built in 1885. There is a complete system of water works, supplying the house, barn, and all parts of the farm. The land is finely improved, and during 1900, Mr. McCrum sold \$1,400 worth of farm products. When he first reached Cherryvale, he had a team of horses and \$95 in money. He went into debt to purchase the farm, and began general farming and stock raising. He also has something of an orchard. He has worked with untiring energy, and his efforts have been well rewarded, for he is now one of the many prosperous farmers in Labette county. He also owns a half interest in a farm several miles southwest in Osage township.

Mr. McCrum formed a matrimonial union with Nancy McClish, and they have four chil-

dren: Rosa E., who is at home; Mary L., who lives near home; Minnie B. (Batey), who lives in Osage township, southwest of her father's farm; and William W., who lives in Los Angeles, California. Mr. McCrum was formerly a Democrat in politics, but is now an independent voter. He was a charter member of Houston Post, G. A. R., No. 180, of Morehead, and has served as commander of the post. He now belongs to Hackleman Post, G. A. R., No. 142. He is liberal in his religious views, and lends his support to all churches.

**J**OHAN R. BYRUM,\* a prominent resident of Howard township, Labette county, Kansas, located on his home farm,—the north half of section 36, township 34, range 17,—in 1880. He was born near Crab Apple Orchard, Kentucky, in 1844, and is a son of William and Mary (Gowens) Byrum.

William Byrum was born in Kentucky, and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. He married Mary Gowens, also a native of that state, and they reared eight children, four of whom are still living, as follows: John R.; Bendy; Beckie; and Harriet.

John R. Byrum, the subject of this sketch, was but a child when his parents moved to Indiana, and in the Hoosier State he lived until the war broke out. In 1862, he enlisted in Company A, 59th Reg., Ind. Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the war, being much of the time in Gen. W. T. Sherman's command. He returned to Indiana after securing his discharge and later went to Illinois, where he lived five years. In 1878, he located in Kansas, and two years later made his settlement in Howard township, Labette county. He has

lived there since that time, and has had good success in his farming operations.

Mr. Byrum married Nellie Winters, who died in 1889. They were the parents of one child,—Alvin, who is a farmer in Labette county. Mr. Byrum married, secondly, Mary Kink, and they have one child,—Otha.

Mr. Byrum is a Democrat, in politics, and takes a deep interest in the affairs of that party. He served as trustee of Howard township one term, and has been a member of the school board for nine years. He belongs to the Anti-Horsethief Association; and is a member of the Masonic order, and the M. W. of A. Religiously, he and his family are members of the Christian church. Mr. Byrum is well known in Labette county, and is considered a very good farmer. He is highly respected throughout the community in which he resides.

**J**ACOB FISHER,\* a well known resident of Montana township, Labette county, Kansas, is engaged in agricultural pursuits on his farm in section 29, where he has been located since 1885. Mr. Fisher was born on the River Rhine in Germany, and is a son of C. Fisher.

C. Fisher was born in Germany, and came to the United States at an early day. Here he engaged in farming. He married Miss Rhinefrank, who was born in Germany, and they became the parents of seven children, as follows: John and Philip, deceased; J. E.; E.; George; V.; and Jacob.

Jacob Fisher was but five years old when he was brought to this country by his parents; they landed at New Orleans. His father located with his family in Macoupin county, Illinois, and there Jacob resided until he came

to Kansas in 1885. He located on his present farm, in section 29, Montana township, Labette county, and has since engaged in general farming, an occupation he has followed throughout life.

Mr. Fisher was united in wedlock with Lizzie Ann Ringer, who was born in the state of Ohio, and they have nine children, namely: Charles E., a farmer of Neosho county, Kansas; Samuel, who resides in Illinois; John P., who is living at home; Mary A. (Shepard), who resides in Illinois; H. C., who is living in Chicago, Illinois; (Rasbach), of Springfield, Missouri; L. C.; Annie; and Jacob, Jr. Politically, Mr. Fisher is a strong supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. Religiously, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

**I**SRAEL JOHNSON.\* In the front ranks of well known farmers in Mound Valley township, Labette county, Kansas, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He owns 400 acres of land in this township, and his home farm is in the southeast quarter of section 10, township 33, range 18. Mr. Johnson was born in the western part of Sweden, in April, 1839. He is a son of Johanus and Alice (Larson) Johnson, who were also natives of that country.

The father of our subject, who was a farmer by occupation, died in 1888, aged eighty-five years. His wife died after his demise, at the age of eighty-four years. They had five sons and one daughter. The names of the sons are: August, who remained on the home farm in Sweden; Israel, the subject of this sketch; Andrew, a traveling mechanic and factory employee in America;

David, who lives on a farm in Sweden; and John, deceased. The daughter died young.

Israel Johnson, the subject of this sketch, was reared and schooled in Sweden, where he worked on a farm for seven years. In October, 1864, he left Sweden, came to America, and settled at Moline, Illinois. On April 24, 1868,—in company with Eric and Martin Olson and Andrew Hansen,—he moved to Oswego, Kansas. He took up the southeast quarter of section 10, township 33, range 18, which is his present home. He also owns land in section 11, and has, in all, 400 acres of valuable land. He brought some money with him to Labette county, but as his health failed him for a year, he had little to start farming with. In company with his three partners on the trip, and Mr. Loose and Mr. Lawley, he located on the site of what is now the town of Mound Valley. Mr. Johnson helped to dig the first well in that town. In those days provisions were obtained from Fort Scott. Five days were required to make the trip. Mr. Johnson sold his first products at Oswego. He has a fine supply of water on his farm, as Pumpkin creek runs through the tract. The farm is bordered by native timber,—walnut, hickory and elm. He obtained the logs for his first building from Timber Hill. The flooring came from the sawmill located between Oswego and Montana. The present, large eight-room house and numerous outbuildings were erected about twenty-four years ago. Mr. Johnson sometimes rents a part of his land, and at other times farms and manages all of it. He is thoroughly posted on all agricultural matters, and is one of the best farmers in the state.

Mr. Johnson was married, in Oswego, to Mattie Sandberg, who was born in Sweden, in 1848. The ceremony was performed by a

Presbyterian minister, Rev. Mr. Monfort, of Oswego, who was a friend of the bridegroom, Five children were the result of this union, namely: Ellen, the wife of Emanuel Oakleaf, of Mound Valley township; Charles, who married Dora Wilford, and lives on a farm south of that of the subject of this sketch; and William, Harry, and Minnie, who are at home.

Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics. He has been a member of the Mound Valley school board, District No. 40, for some time. He is a Presbyterian, but attends the United Brethren church at Mound Valley. There is no better known or more highly respected farmer in Labette county than this gentleman, and his friends are many. He is always a willing helper in any public enterprise, and is one of the most progressive men in Mound Valley township.



J. BARNES\* is a well-to-do farmer of Labette county, Kansas, and is located in Hackberry township. He was born in New York State in 1831, and is a son of Ira Barnes.

Ira Barnes was born in New York, and followed farming throughout his entire life. He married Elizabeth Carnegie, also a native of New York, and they became the parents of

seven children, as follows: Maria; Bertha, deceased; A. J., the subject of this biographical record; Coral; Alfred; E.; and Mary, deceased.

A. J. Barnes lived in his native state until he was twelve years old, when he went west, to Kane county, Illinois, where he resided until 1859. He then went to Colorado and California, and spent the most of the following nine years there, after which he located in Labette county, Kansas, in November, 1868. He first settled in Chetopa, and then, in 1869, took as a claim the southwest quarter of section 4, township 35, range 20, in Hackberry township. He greatly improved his claim, built a cabin 12 by 20 feet, in size, and resided here until 1873. He then went to the western part of Kansas, and was in the cattle business for a period of nine years. Upon the expiration of that time, he returned to Labette county, in 1882, and located upon his present home farm, the south half of section 5, township 35, range 20, in Hackberry township. He built a fine two-story frame house in 1885, in which he has since lived. He now owns an entire section of land in Hackberry township, renting most of his land. He has been a hard working, industrious man, and well merits the success which has attended his efforts. In politics, he is a sturdy supporter of Republican principles.



# INDEX

## Biographical

PAGE	PAGE	PAGE
Adams, Evi..... 705	Brehm, W. H..... 385	De Garmo, Rufus..... 500
Adamson, J. S..... 699	Breidenthal, E. H..... 548	Dennison, Beeri L..... 411
Alexander, D. A..... 665	Briggs, B. F..... 691	Dickerson, John E..... 553
Allen, Joseph..... 714	Brooks, Aurelius..... 743	Dienst, B. F..... 448
Allen, N. E..... 619	Brown, Fred H..... 505	Dienst, F. T..... 742
Allmon, William..... 585	Brown, Jacob..... 808	Dixon, James..... 559
Anderson, C. L..... 781	Brown, J. R..... 386	Dixon, Mrs. Lizzie..... 527
Anderson, G. S..... 686	Brown, J. W..... 738	Dreizler, Jacob..... 659
Anderson, I. N..... 677	Bryner, Samuel G..... 406	Dresser, A. S..... 811
Anderson, Nicholas..... 765	Busby, William..... 377	Dudgeon, W. O..... 697
Andrews, Jonathan..... 757	Bush, George P..... 687	Dunham, Samuel..... 817
Appich, J. C..... 521	Butts, Mrs. Agnes A..... 634	
Arnold, J. C..... 592	Byrum, John R..... 820	Eakins, W. H..... 555
Asbell, B. F..... 671		Edwards, Edwin H..... 389
	Can, Matthew..... 508	Elliott, Frank W..... 599
Baker, M. T..... 815	Campbell, Fred B..... 454	Ellis, Ard H..... 415
Baldwin, Col. E. B..... 495	Cares, John P..... 507	Ellis, E. O..... 607
Barbe, Dr. Porter W..... 463	Carr, Joseph..... 507	Ellis, E. S..... 590
Barnes, A. J..... 822	Case, Hon. Nelson..... 534	Ellison, Isaac D..... 583
Barrows, W. N..... 470	Chiles, Thomas H..... 442	Emery, James..... 417
Bartlett, R. A..... 719	Christmore, G. W..... 544	Every, Walter S..... 434
Bashelier, Henry..... 481	Clark, Edward D..... 753	Ewing, M. G..... 770
Beggs, James..... 787	Clark, H. W..... 727	
Beit, Dr. William H..... 423	Clark, T. R..... 690	Feess, Mrs. Pauline..... 482
Bendure, Dr. C. S..... 801	Cline, William..... 475	Fessenden, C. B., Jr..... 579
Bennett, John..... 629	Cook, Hiram..... 749	Finch, George T..... 522
Berentz, Jerry..... 649	Cook, J. B..... 792	Fisher, Jacob..... 829
Bero, Ed, Jr..... 515	Cook, Myron..... 550	Fisher, Walter S..... 465
Bicknell, Alfred..... 493	Cooper, James M..... 751	Fitch, S. E..... 819
Bicknell, John..... 490	Cooper, Wilford..... 429	Fleming, Ira M..... 507
Biggs, Isaac N..... 567	Coleman, G. J..... 793	Flora, John A..... 494
Biggs, S. A..... 620	Condon, C. M..... 683	Foster, F. F..... 671
Bigham, Mary D..... 648	Connolly, Stephen..... 698	Foster, Irvin W..... 412
Birt, J. M..... 531	Constant, D. C..... 791	Foust, William..... 732
Bishoff, Mrs. S. H..... 641	Correll, Levi..... 564	Fox, Amasa..... 806
Boardman, Dr. E. W..... 432	Cowden, F. C..... 611	Frame, George W..... 748
Booker, J. O..... 554	Craft, John A..... 692	Francisco, Harmon..... 569
Boon, G. D., M. D..... 587	Craft, Joseph..... 788	Freeman, L. C..... 508
Bostelmann, Frederick..... 590	Cruzan, W. G..... 788	
Bouchard, E. J..... 533	Daniels, Archibald..... 525	Gabriel, Dr. G. W..... 764
Bouton, B. F..... 633	Darling, C. J..... 773	Gaffey, Michael C..... 407
Boyd, Jeremiah B..... 378	Darling, P. B..... 798	Galyen, Isaac W..... 752
Bradfield, Aratus R..... 496	Davis, M. V..... 613	Galyen, James W..... 447
Bradley, Joseph G..... 535	Davis, Richard A..... 381	Gay, Robert B..... 464
Brammer, Aaron..... 650	Daviss, Hon. M. I..... 381	Gehring, Charles F..... 774
Braschler, Jacob..... 398	De Cow, Mrs. Sarah..... 535	Gers, Philip..... 593

	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE
Getzendaner, W. S.	501	Keyser, Chester A.	514	Morris, Hon. J. B.	439
Gillies, James C.	532	Kile, G. H.	624	Morrison, Julius L.	754
Gillies, William.	406	Kimball, Hon. C. H.	387	Murray, Charles.	816
Good, Finis.	476	Kincaid, W. G.	656	Muzzy, Robert H.	766
Gragg, Cyrenius W.	473	Kingsbury, M. M.	437		
Graham, Rev. E. A.	473	Kleiser, Dr. J. M.	465	Nelson, August.	563
Graham, Joshua	538	Knoch, Daniel R.	675	Nevius, P. M.	809
Gray, M. H.	681	Koons, W. G.	722	Newlon, Dr. W. S.	383
Green, Lowell C.	421	Koons, O. C.	811	Nixon, P. O. C.	653
Grierson, W. F.	438	Kyser, Prof. W. M.	382		
Gunter, Mrs. Elizabeth.	557			Oakleaf, Mrs. Mary.	795
Guthrie, Charles W.	743	Lambert, Charles A.	442	O'Herin, William.	662
Guthrie, S. W.	710	Landon, George W.	537	Olds, Lester.	700
Guthrie, S. W.	804	Latta, W. J., D.D.S.	577	Oliphant, J. B.	803
		Laughlin, Daniel.	813	Olmstead, G. A.	708
Haggard, Martin.	742	Leap, G. W.	630	Olson, Prof. J. C.	440
Hall, George W.	506	Leavitt, R. D.	589	Ondler, William C.	423
Hardman, George W.	676	Lerch, W. F.	644		
Harmon, Mrs. M. J.	706	Lewis, Jacob F.	524	Park, John W.	458
Harris, Mrs. M. R.	681	Lewis, W. H.	541	Parker, John N.	489
Harry, A. M.	705	Liggett, E. E., M. D.	428	Pearson, Jonathan.	763
Harshaw, Alexander M.	518	Liggett, George S., M. D.	430	Pefley, James T.	660
Hawk, George W.	397	Lisle, Dr. Henry.	682	Perkins, Fred.	416
Hazlett, Dr. W. A.	449	Livesay, A. C.	737	Peterson, Louis.	544
Heacock, Dr. James.	449	Livesay, W. F.	632	Pierson, John J.	427
Heath, B. C.	806	Lockwood, Mrs. S. E.	560	Pitt, S. M.	805
Hedges, Rev. Salem.	380	Long, J. A., & Brother.	656	Potter, Francis O.	729
Heinkey, Jacob.	589	Lonnecker, R. F.	538	Pressey, E. M.	640
Henderson, Dr. J. W.	495	Loper, Abraham C.	483	Price, C. F.	631
Henshaw, N. G.	654	Lough, William J.	688	Price, H. B.	623
Hildreth, Milo.	440	Lowe, H. W.	815	Price, Joseph.	735
Hileman, John S.	771	Lowe, R. B.	808		
Hill, R. A.	707	Lusk, Harry H.	390	Raber, H. W.	759
Hilligoss, A. C.	741	Lutz, George.	599	Ramsey, J. B.	802
Hindenach, J. P.	443			Ratliff, George K.	460
Hodge, Colin.	543	Maddocks, W. H.	776	Read, Elijah T.	469
Hoepfner, T. J.	744	Mahan, E. H.	810	Reed, David V.	499
Hoffman, John P.	753	Maier, C. W.	693	Reed, Mrs. Hettie.	744
Hogge, Hiram H.	731	Manners, Frank M.	473	Rice, James E.	675
Hogue, James H.	558	Markley, David D.	476	Rich, Henry L.	502
Hoke, W. S.	622	Marley, Jesse W.	665	Richart, Cyrus C.	422
Holman, Otis B.	644	Marshall, W. J.	750	Richcreek, Jared C.	505
Holt, W. M.	694	Martin, Charles B.	401	Reece, Allen R.	537
Holten, John F.	685	Martin, David H.	590	Roberts, Benjamin D.	637
Holten, V.	728	Mason, John W.	807	Roberts, Mrs. M. A.	642
Hoover, Martin V.	452	Mason, W. E.	643	Rockafeller, F. M.	638
Hoover, W. G.	595	Massa, F. M.	641	Rockhold, Dr. Charles.	401
Hopkins, E. W.	647	McCarthy, M. T.	525	Rorschach, Emil, Sr.	627
Hotchkiss, J. B.	714	McCarthy, Isaac.	727	Rosboro, Edgar.	728
Howe, Franklin D.	469	McCaulou, Miles H.	473	Roter, L. R.	547
Howell, John W.	732	McCaw, John A.	678	Roush, M. M.	617
Howell, Oscar L.	660	McCreery, E. H.	450	Rude, John S.	570
Hewlett, C. H.	437	McCrum, William.	819	Russell, J. F.	669
Hoy, David.	555	McCully, Alexander.	725	Rust, Arthur J.	486
Hudson, Lewis.	408	McDown, William.	749	Rust, John H.	486
Huff, Dr. W. A.	517	McEwen, G. W.	716	Ryan, C. W.	484
Hughes, John.	556	McGeehen, Miss M. N.	720		
Humphrey, John L.	797	McKenney, J. H.	605	Saltzman, Geo. W.	710
		McKenna, James.	583	Savage, H. W.	639
Jamison, John A.	580	Meador, Andrew W.	565	Schmidt, George F.	809
Jarboe, James A.	528	Miller, David M.	576	Schmitz, Henry.	775
Johnson, Charles M.	758	Miliken, E. A.	721	Scott, Howard.	474
Johnson, Israel.	821	Mitchell, H. H.	812	Scott, Joseph.	536
Jones, D. A.	633	Mollenhour, George W.	424	Scott, William.	573
Jones, J. A.	779	Morain, J. W.	769	Sedgwick, Thos. N.	458
		Morgan, Edwin B.	416	Sellmansberger, George.	564

	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE	
Sharp, Madison.....	796	Talbot, Robert D.....	428	Watson, David U.....	666	
Sharp, T. J.....	785	Tallman, Benjamin.....	480	Webb, Hon. H. G.....	431	
Shelburn, M. D.....	453	Tanner, J. L.....	772	Weir, R. A.....	405	
Shone, James.....	606	Tarkington, George S.....	523	Welch, C. E.....	719	
Shrader, Frank.....	726	Taylor, Scott.....	485	Welch, Don Carlos.....	527	
Shultz, O. B.....	558	Taylor, Solomon.....	699	Welch, Luther W.....	441	
Shumaker, Robert C.....	511	Ten Brook, Dr. Andrew.....	528	Wells, Elisha H.....	454	
Simmons, Harvey.....	549	Terrell, James W.....	409	West, Mrs. Eliza A.....	628	
Skelton, Edward L.....	399	Terril, Samuel F.....	444	Weston, Capt. W. H.....	579	
Slaughter, William.....	611	Terwilliger, J. H.....	663	Wheat, James H.....	566	
Smiley, L. J.....	807	Tibbets, C. F.....	614	White, Mrs. Mary M.....	631	
Smith, Asa.....	485	Tilton, Samuel.....	730	White, Perry S.....	466	
Smith, Dr. Albert.....	482	Tinder, Dr. J. S.....	459	Widmer, William.....	672	
Smith, Irvin.....	760	Tinder, Dr. John W.....	459	Wilkin, C. A.....	412	
Smith, Millard F.....	515	Thrall, Wm. T.....	601	Williams, Henry E.....	750	
Smith, R. W.....	788	Thurber, Mrs. S. E.....	817	Williams, Dr. Lee.....	398	
Sourbeer, A. McE.....	607	Todd, Prof. H. W.....	813	Williams, Lewis.....	704	
Spangle, George H.....	709	Toms, George L.....	484	Willis, Shelby.....	491	
Staige, W. E.....	684	Tower, N. D.....	814	Willis, Joseph P.....	703	
Stansbury, Samuel M.....	554	Townsend, James A.....	549	Wilson, James.....	736	
Stare, Jacob S.....	713	Traxson, W. S.....	514	Wilson, James A.....	780	
Starks, William H.....	747	Trimble, John P.....	474	Wilson, J. L.....	639	
Starnes, Harry W.....	496	Troester, Albert.....	479	Wilson, J. O.....	559	
Stemple, Jacob M.....	472	Troutman, Henry H.....	402	Wilson, W. J.....	782	
Stevens, Eugene B.....	385			Wingfield, J. G.....	640	
Stewart, Mrs. E.....	818			Winters, William A.....	578	
Stewart, O. H.....	479	Ullery, Leonard.....	566	Wise Brothers.....	786	
Stice, Thomas F.....	492	Utterson, J. N.....	397	Wood, Mrs. Melissa.....	738	
Stone, Benjamin S.....	517			Woodul, Dr. J. H.....	591	
Stone, George E.....	731	Vance, C. A.....	729	Woollard, Philip.....	804	
Stotts, James O.....	757			Wright, James O.....	752	
Strode, A. M.....	508					
Stuart, C. H.....	805	Wade, H. A.....	457	Young, Mrs. Mary.....	704	
Sturgis, W. D.....	643	Walcott, Mrs. Sarah T.....	664	Young, S. W.....	543	
Sturm, N. D.....	661	Warner, T. H.....	418			
Sullivan, William.....	512	Waskey, John F.....	482			
Sykes, Albert.....	568	Watson, Charles.....	586	Zink, Jabez.....	471	

## Portraits

	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE
Appich, J. C.....	520	Hoover, W. G.....	594	Pierson, John J.....	426
Baldwin, Col. Elias B.....	392	Hopkins, E. W.....	646	Price, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph.....	734
Baldwin, Evelyn B.....	393	Howe, F. D.....	468		
Barbe, Dr. P. W.....	462			Reed, David V.....	498
Bartlett, R. A.....	718	Jones, J. A.....	778	Roberts, B. D.....	636
Bendure, Dr. C. S.....	800			Rorschach, Mr. and Mrs. Emil, Jr.....	626
Birt, J. M.....	530	Kingsbury, M. M.....	436	Roter, L. R.....	546
Briggs, B. F.....	690	Knous, Mr. and Mrs. D. R.....	674	Roush, M. M.....	616
Brown, Fred H.....	504			Russell, J. F.....	668
Busby, William.....	376	Leayitt, R. D.....	588	Scott, Mr. and Mrs. William and	
		Lewis, W. H.....	540	family.....	572
Case, Hon. Nelson.....	10			Second and Third County Jails	
Constant, Mr. and Mrs. D. C.....	790	M. K. & T. Ry. Depot at Parsons.....	257	and Court House.....	157
County High School at Altamont.....	207	McCully, Alexander.....	724	Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J.....	784
County Poor Farm.....	307	McKeehen, Mr. and Mrs. John H.		and family.....	510
Dickerson, Mr. and Mrs. John E.....	552	and family.....	604	Slaughter, William.....	610
Dudgeon, Mr. and Mrs. W. O.		McKennen, James.....	582	Stare, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob S.....	712
and family.....	636	Morain, Mr. and Mrs. J. W.....	768	Starks, W. H.....	746
Ellis, Ard H.....	414			Stewart, O. H.....	478
First County Jail.....	107	Nelson, August.....	562	Stotts, Mr. and Mrs. James O.....	756
First Court House.....	67	Newlon, W. S.....	383		
		Nixon, Mr. and Mrs. P. O. C.....	652	Wade, H. A.....	456
Galyen, Mr. and Mrs. James W.....	446			Webb, Hon. H. G.....	404
Gray, M. H., Residence of.....	680	Parker, John N.....	488	Wills, J. P.....	702
Green, Lowell C., Residence of.....	420	Pearson, Jonathan.....	762	Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. and	
				Son, Leon C.....	658













